

SEVEN DAYS

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NOT GOOD

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Tracking Champlain's
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FREE

LIVING ON THE LAKE



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Meet the "mayor" of D-Dock



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Thompson's Point community



WAY IN THE WATER

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Tubes, skis and dragons, oh my!

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SACKED: HUMAN SERVICES SECRETARY DOUG RACINE TELLS HOW IT HAPPENED

In a phone interview Tuesday, Doug Racine described how he got fired.

Gov. Peter Shumway's secretary of Human Services was summoned to the Gov. office at the Pavilion State Office Building at 4 p.m. on Monday for a meeting with Chief of Staff, Lt. Mayor and Secretary of Administration Jeff Spaulding. The talk: Seven Days. And Racine.

"They sat it. The governor wants to make changes at your agency," said "Who established it? And what at the end said 'You' Racine recalled. "We talked about it for a few minutes, and then I went to the office and cleaned out my desk."

Shumway called him without intent to discuss the decision, Racine reported on 8TV's "Seven Days" news program.

"I took personally the way it went. Governors do good news, staff does bad news," Racine said. "I needed two weeks for this job. I needed time and I needed to find my way."

Rep. Greg Barlow on an earlier book at the Agency of Human Services is Dr. Henry Chen, a former Democratic lawmaker and emergency room doctor who has served for nearly four years as commissioner of the Department of Health.

"No general staff decisions are made every day. But that's just how it is. It's a different kind of leadership. I should say at a press conference Tuesday afternoon at the National Traveler Station. He said

he was grateful for Racine's service, and decided to say what he wanted to say.

The agency oversees the state's health, social and welfare services, including corrections and mental health services. It also manages the state's health insurance exchange, as well as the operations of the Department for Children and Families over the state's health care system.

Racine, a Democrat, has been a fixture in Vermont politics since 1983 when he was first elected to the Vermont House of Representatives. He served three terms as Vermont's governor before losing the 2002 gubernatorial race to then state Rep. Jim Douglas. Racine returned to the Senate in 2008 and made it a second year for Governor Peter Dinkins before losing the Democratic nomination to Shumway.

Racine's firing was a surprise. The said he just wants a different style, a different focus, moving forward and he felt that some staff didn't have the best. Racine said, "But they didn't say they were wrong. They said they were wrong. It wasn't anything like that. It was just time for some things to change."

Racine's firing does not mean what he said for him. "You going to finish these calls and it doesn't mean I'm going to go home every day," he said.

To read Racine's complete post, visit www.sevendaysvt.com



Gov. Peter Shumway with Dr. Henry Chen, Secretary of the Agency of Human Services, at a National Traveler Station press conference.

facing facts



YOUNG GUN

A soldier inside a federal building in a new district in a New York City center. Apparently, the soldier was left at the scene of a shooting.



SUMMER SIDE

Officials look for a new project in the state's capital. The state's capital is a new project in the state's capital.



WHAT IS IT?

The state's capital is a new project in the state's capital. The state's capital is a new project in the state's capital.



SAVED HARBOR

A school bus in a new district in a New York City center. Apparently, the school bus was left at the scene of a shooting.

\$2 million

The state's budget reduction for the state's capital is a new project in the state's capital. The state's capital is a new project in the state's capital.

TOP FIVE

1. "Cheryl Harnois Suffers Confirms Heroin Abuse in Vermont" by Matt Hays. The Vermont Department of Health has announced that Cheryl Harnois, a Vermont resident, has died of a heroin overdose.
2. "Sharon's Early Report: Names of Heroin Abuse" by Matt Hays. The Vermont Department of Health has announced that Sharon, a Vermont resident, has died of a heroin overdose.
3. "Vermont's Early Report: Names of Heroin Abuse" by Matt Hays. The Vermont Department of Health has announced that Vermont, a Vermont resident, has died of a heroin overdose.
4. "Vermont's Early Report: Names of Heroin Abuse" by Matt Hays. The Vermont Department of Health has announced that Vermont, a Vermont resident, has died of a heroin overdose.
5. "Vermont's Early Report: Names of Heroin Abuse" by Matt Hays. The Vermont Department of Health has announced that Vermont, a Vermont resident, has died of a heroin overdose.

tweet of the week:



Michael Hays (@michaelhays) a Vermont resident who died of a heroin overdose.

Source: Vermont Department of Health, Vermont Department of Health

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is not too late to bring "beyond the awareness of the disease of depression." Cheryl Hanna touched our lives in so many ways, it is our turn to honor her endlessly compassionate spirit by bringing light to the darkness that finally claimed her life.

Lois Leutberg
SOUTH BURLINGTON



CORRECTING THE CONNECTION

The August 6 edition of *Seven Days* makes a "correction" regarding Democratic Rep. Mike Fisher. He represents Lincoln, not Bristol, in the Vermont House. Rep. Fisher lives in Lincoln, but he represents Lincoln, Bristol, Starksboro and Montpelier. I'm sure the folks in all the four towns Rep. Fisher represents want to know that their representatives have all their interests at heart.

Don Sharpe
HINESBURG & BURLINGTON

MISSING CABBIES

[Re "Fare Treatment" and "Across the World," in *Seven Days*, August 6] It would have been nice to read about some full-time drivers who have spent more than half their lives serving Burlington — Buckle, 30 years; Mark Noyes, 36 years; Dave Mahan, 25 years and Tim, 25 years — on the impact of losing the biggest company in town and what these retirement Uber drivers will be stealing from them. After 36 years, Tim the longest-running full-time driver in this city.

Don Campbell
CHESBURY



BONNIE AS GUIDE

[Re *Stack in Vermont*, "Co-op Gardening with Bonnie," July 28] My cat after so many years should be a pinnaculo with style into some thing satisfying and useful not merely entertaining. Like the artist who plants gardens — more than Johnny Appleseed more than sprinkling seeds.

She reaches the plots to frisks soil around the auditorium, the library, the city and lot, the movie theater. She raises seedlings in winter. In spring, she plants an array of colors, shapes, heights, a blooming rhythm, a harmony to behold. Patches that light up the town and stop you on your way. Gardens to surprise you. Deliberate, thought out, last and forever, a shining mix. Her plantings narrate each other and our town with color and history.

She reads them, writes them, weaves them, trims them. There she is in her bare muscled arms in gardening gear. Bonnie, known around town for exploring what school lunch should be, for second-grading into good stuff that kids plant, grow, eat and throw on.

Then she goes home and paints — lyrical watercolors that capture Vermont in seasons, on the lake in the mountains, cityscapes and landscapes elegant and bold at once.

And her quick ready hands enhance the lake at school hands, the shops beside her flower beds. The whole city considers Bonnie honored recently with a day named for her. Now there's a legacy to behold!

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contents

AUGUST 15, 2014 VOL. 70 NO. 22

LOOKING FORWARD



The Seven Days office is just a couple of blocks from glorious **Lake Champlain**—but does that mean we have time to get in on an it? Not much. Instead, we dreamed up this theme issue. In it, we explore ecological concerns including **water quality**, the **rising lake level** and a **dam controversy** in Swanton. We visit **lake-side communities**—longtime campers at **Thompson's Point** in Charlotte and the lively social scene with a lake view that is Burlington's **St. Johns Club**. We compile a handy **guide to all the ways to float**, even without a boat, and we chat up a guy who lives in on one all summer. Not least, we offer two dining excursions, in the **Champlain Islands** and across the lake in **Essex, N.Y.** Ferry anyone?

Scan the cover with the Layer app (see instructions below) for an interview with our cover model, *Shirley LaFleur of Montpelier*

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BY ANDREW LUCAS

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SLACK IN SWANTON In search of better rates we braved. These hidden spots are the best way to stay cool during our hot summer. On a rainy Saturday Eve and Michael took the plunge at Lake Champlain State and Larissa Hale in Woodstock

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1 WEDNESDAY 20 FUN IN THE SUN

Local canines make a splash at the **Big Days of Summer**. Poodles dapper peddle the evening away at Montpelier's public pool at this unique fundraiser for the Central Vermont Humane Society. With open access to the water, four-legged swimmers make for a pool party to remember.

SEE CALENDAR LISTING ON PAGE 34

2 SATURDAY 16 & SUNDAY 17 Blast From the Past

History buffs recall the War of 1812 at **Rubio in Arms**, where historical reenactors recreate the 16-hour battle on Fort Green to commemorate the 200th anniversary of the battle. Costume-dedicated soldiers and civilians combine this 19th-century battle with traditional crafts, arts and crafts — from fire arms to blacksmithing and beyond.

SEE CALENDAR LISTING ON PAGE 31

3 SUNDAY 17 Plugged In

Curious about going green? **Sun Connected** can get you started. Replacing solar power, electric vehicles and the combination of the two this was already event hosted by SunConnected celebrates the solar day or alternative energy sources. Kids get in on the fun with prizes for energy and a battery house.

SEE CALENDAR LISTING ON PAGE 32

4 SUNDAY 17 Teaming Up

Dulcor adventures dream on their mandal and planet days when searching for stars at the **Missile Possible Urban Science Fair**. Teams of two tackle weekly challenges through the Burlington at the Burlington for the United Way of Chittenden County. Stops in its partner agencies highlight the people and programs that benefit from the local nonprofit.

SEE CALENDAR LISTING ON PAGE 32

5 MONDAY 18 Price Tag

These days, the words "old" and "vintage" go hand in hand. With rising tailors and reduced employment opportunities, is a vintage education worth the money? **Andrea Ross** gives his question with 2014 documentary **Heavy Taxes**. Featuring 1000s on all sides of the issue, this brought prevailing picture of higher education examines its past, present and future.

SEE CALENDAR LISTING ON PAGE 34

6 FRIDAY 15 Local Legends

In 1995, **Greenhouse** debuted at a New York's live party in a Burlington basement. Despite this modest end, over the world of progressive hardcore — and an ensuing revolving membership — the band left a local mark on the genre. Blasted for the first time since 2020, the Greenhouse will embrace the stage at Signal Kitchen.

SEE PROGRAM ON PAGE 36

7 ONGOING Regal Residence

The **Herbie House Project**, a nonprofit residency program in Dorset, launched this year in an elegant former private home — built originally in 1833 of gem marble from a quarry just up the hill. Though the quarry is now extinct, the house — and expansive grounds, restored den gardens and a nearby inn — has maintained purpose: hosting writers, musicians, dancers, visual artists and progressive farmers.

SEE PROGRAM ON PAGE 36





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FAIR GAME OPEN SEASON ON VERMONT POLITICS BY ALICIA FREE SE AND MARK DAVIS

Party Hopping

Amidst a collection of laissez-faire and cardboard money-driven republicans, Vermont Democrats unleashed last Wednesday evening in a Colchester private. They were there to raise money to select the state's highest-ranking Republican, who is also well life recent donor.

THE NEW HANNA (D-Greenleaf) hosted the fundraiser for Lt. Gov. **PHIL SCOTT**—Republican could cost, too — in the "newcomer" behind the senator's 60-year-old general state.

Sen. President Pro Tem **TIM CAMPBELL** (D-Windsor) newly turned up why he and several others showed up. "Phil is like, one of my best friends." Campbell is also part of the trade — along with Scott and Hanna — due to numerous which senators serve on which committees.

Scott's Progressive challenger, **DEAN GORDON**, has become a real contender since qualifying for \$100,000 in public financing last month. He's been trying to win over Democrats by emphasizing his control over to **GOV. PETE DOWNEY**, single-party health care plan.

That message hadn't single the Colchester crowd.

On single-party "I guess I'm like Phil Scott," Hanna said. "I see what it is and how much it's going to cost and how it's going to affect people, and then I'll make a decision."

Campbell was also talking tough, after half-retracting a comment suggesting the price tag for single-party was too steep, he was back to sounding detached.

"Does he have a financing plan or is he just out there saying, 'I am for single-party,'" the state's president said at Corcoran's campaign chairs. "Which sounds really good, but the proof is in the pudding."

Campbell's current stance? "I support the idea that we're trying to see if it's fiscally possible to actually sell the ship, but for the rest of us we need to do it as the expectations of people."

Also in attendance — but not cutting a check — was **AL KORNBLAU**, chair of the Green Mountain Open Road, the independent for-profit panel created to help reverse Vermont's transition to single-party.

For more than a decade, Gabele's contributed to campaigns and let politicians — including Scott, whom he considers a friend — hold fundraisers on his cruise boat — a discounted rate. But according to the Burlington restaurant, those benefits ended for state-level politicians when **JOHN BALLYWATER**, editor of the new site **VTDiggs**, aired in a 2012 story whether it was appropriate for a sitting member of the quasi-judicial health care board to be subsidizing outside party events.

"I had one scheduled for the governor, but I had no choice," Gabele recalled. Until Governor's son, he said, a scandal occurred to him that political charity might not use

with his role as independent steward of the state's health care system. "You get involved trying to serve and then you have to know what it's all about."

Although he no longer gives, Gabele isn't about to relinquish his right to party life. He doesn't see anything improper about enjoying the house of a Democrat to see a Republican speak. "It didn't hurt that the other side's ideas seemed more smart on taking about the shipping system — which Gabele did not provide — than health care reform."

It's Not My Party

What are Republicans doing while Democrats copy up with their man man?

Back from Arizona, conservative political operative **GABRIEL JORDAN** has a new cause: getting **PAUL FULCHER**, the Libertarian candidate for governor, onto the Republican primary ballot with a write-in campaign. The hope is to supplant Republican candidate **SCOTT HANNA**, whose single-party stance on single-party has risked Johnson and others within the party.

Last election, Johnson ran as Republican gubernatorial candidate **BARRY BRUCK**'s campaign. He left Vermont to work on a primary campaign in the Grand Canyon State and came back because the deal money was running low. This time around, Johnson said, it's just an unpaid volunteer.

Fulcher, who said in June that he would not seek a spot on the Republican ballot, held a press conference last week in Montpelier, announcing his plan to do exactly that. It is an move he said the one he, Fulcher, said he had a change of heart after being "insulted" with requests from Republicans and underwritten by Mitt Romney. Added if he'd received any Republican endorsements, Fulcher instead in Johnson's caucus. The result has a message: consisted of his with and there is no.

With less than a month left to make it happen, what does the underfunded single-party effort have up her sleeve?

Inspired by **LEAH MURPHY** of Alaska, who, in 2010, ran the first successful write-in candidate for U.S. Senate in more than 50 years, Johnson drafted rubber stamps stamped with Fulcher's name to a few unopposed senators.

Fulcher and his wife have been at least one person concerned his coworker at **Keating Green Mountain** and chair of the Vermont Republican party, **SCOTT CAMPBELL**, who stood in for nearly two during the press conference.

Senatorial describes himself as a "Libertarian-leaning Republican" but he was in Waterbury to tell supporters that

Libertarians have some pretty messed-up ideas — making banks legal and letting drug dealers roam free, for example.

Fulcher, who pulled up about 1,200 votes as an independent candidate four years ago isn't getting too worked up about the loss. "When that release came out from Washington stating all that crazy stuff, I started laughing," he said. Fulcher claimed that, personally, he opposes identity for citizens and only supports the legislation of marijuana — which came in a "non-prime" to Vermont Libertarian Party chair **JORDAN RYAN**.

The R label doesn't carry a lot of cachet these days, but in trying to elicit it is himself. Fulcher is making his own party's support. Libertarians lashed out after his announcement, condemning his decision to court the Republican vote. "I apologize to any member that may be disillusioned or offended by this development," Ryan wrote in a statement sent out almost immediately after Fulcher's announcement.

PHIL IS LIKE ONE OF MY BEST FRIENDS.

SENATE PRESIDENT
PHILIP J. DUFFY
CAMPBELL

Phil is like one of my best friends. He will do the Libertarian platform and endorse liberal Democrats, some of them, according to Ryan, have recently come into the party's fold. The Libertarians are increasingly flush with candidates this year. In addition to Fulcher, they are fielding 11 candidates for state Senate and House seats.

But they are still lacking Fulcher — for now. "We are watching closely in these positions, but at this time we are in support," Ryan said.

While both party chairs are dead-set on keeping their identities separate, Vermont Republican and Libertarian parties clearly have at least one thing in common: a knack for making their mutual squabbles public.

Trouble with Crimes

No one paid much attention last session when lawmakers approved a budget with an extra \$200,000 to hire four new state prosecutors.

Last week, Vermont Public Radio revealed that one of the new jobs went to Campbell, the former prosecutor pro tem and ex-verbal general attorney who will now pull in \$100,000 a year as a part-time prosecutor in Windsor County.

Windsor County State's Attorney **MICHAEL BARNES** said he hired Campbell, an old friend and neighbor in Montpelier, because of the senator's experience. The only other candidates interested in the position were former state's attorney from last school, **Ronan**, and

"I would have been happy to hire them, but there's a big difference between somebody who is right out of law school and

somebody who has experience in court," Kamen said. "I needed somebody I could bend like a rebar."

Campbell will roll over a chunk of Kamen's family room work, and may handle the occasional criminal charge, his new boss said. Kamen clarified that he is going Campbell cases that are likely to conclude by the time lawmakers return to the Statehouse in January, though he expects Campbell will continue to handle some legal work during the session.

The new arrangement put legal assistants back into the conflicts of interest that two lawmakers who take jobs closely related to their legislative work.

For example, any judges, whose budgets are controlled by the legislature, going to treat Campbell the same as defense attorneys and other prosecutors?

What about the Department for Children and Families, which has been widely criticized for its role in the recent deaths of two young children? Lawmakers are expected to consider reorganizing at this session. How will Campbell's frequent interactions with DCF as a family-court prosecutor impact that debate?

In interviews with *the Record*, Campbell said he and Kamen do not have any conflict and believed his new job would enhance his understanding of important Statehouse issues. "In three weeks, what I have observed is how little we in the legislature know about the criminal system," Campbell told VTDigger. He did not respond to messages from Seven Days seeking further comment.

Vermont Defender General **MATT NAKHOD** said he has no qualms with Campbell working as a prosecutor and has not heard any concerns from defense attorneys. "It really doesn't bother me at all," Valerio said.

Vermont Public Interest Research Group Executive Director **PAUL PERINI** agreed with Valerio.

But **CRIMINAL JUSTICE**, an advocacy group for Vermont, an advocacy group that has made legislative transparency a focal point, had a different view. "It is suspect any time a legislator has a role in creating a job and yet themselves fill the job," Perini said.

Regardless of any potential conflicts, Campbell is apparently leaving some non-jury positions in the office.

After Seven Days inquired about the impending hire last month, Kamen responded last week on email.

"My new duty is managing criminality with crimes," Kamen wrote in the unidentified recipient. "Have you decided to use if you stated that insurance thing electronically?"

"The president of the Senate, newly hired by his body to prosecute crimes on the state's dime, was struggling with crimes?" He needed an insurance manual for the job?

Also, the news page were not as benevolent. CRIMES in the software program used by prosecutors to give state court papers will appear as defendants. And — brace yourself

— the program is apparently antiquated and confusing.

Kamen explained that his wordy email had been intended for his old boss, Orange County Sheriff's Attorney **CHRISTOPHER KAMEN** said he, too, struggled to figure out the system for months after Porter hired him as a deputy. Porter got so fed up with Kamen's constant questions he wrote up instructions for him to follow.

Campbell is now having the same trouble, which is puzzling, said Jack-Born, a former reporter with another important Statehouse role: the state government's poorly functioning IT program.

Media Notes

Last month's story examined a problem with Vermont's Sex Offender Registry. Auditors found significant errors with the website, which identified people who legally should not have been listed, and failed to include some eligible offenders.

None of that has dissuaded the *Record* from its attempt at an editorial project, publishing a list of sex offenders to the public.

The *Record* had asked up for electronic alerts from the Department of Public Safety, after **NON SENSUS** explained, which indicate when a sex offender is released nearby. Any member of the public can do so.

To offer a longer, informal discussion, the *Record* decided to accept publishing them. D'Amico is not aware of any other publication in Vermont that is taking the same.

"It's a matter of public record and important information that the reader wants and needs to be made aware of," D'Amico said. He added that the *Record*, which has posted at least three notices on its site not looking to cause sex offenders "undue hardship," and not publishing their mugshots.

Auditors recently ascribed a few incidents in which an offender was identified on the site when, legally, they should not have been. Offenders who commit less serious sex crimes, or who were younger than 18, are legally exempt from posting. That's happened at least once in the *Record*'s backyard. A man convicted in a Windham County sex case successfully sued the state after the registry mistakenly posted his name. After he was publicly identified, the man received threatening phone calls and someone smashed a beer bottle over his head.

Moreover, critics of the registry, including defense attorneys and privacy advocates, aren't even convinced it improves public safety. Studies have consistently shown that a majority of sex crimes are committed not by strangers, but by people whom the victim already knows. Those are concerned that the registry provides a false sense of security and makes it harder for sex offenders to build stable lives that make them less likely to re-offend. ☐

Paul Hixson was on vacation last week.

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Green Alert: Public Water Systems Watch for Toxic Algae in Lake Champlain

BY KATHRYN FLADD

For three days earlier this month, officials in Ohio warned a half-million residents not to drink their tap water. The reason? Water samples had tested positive for a toxin due to the massive blue-green algae bloom that hovered over Toledo's public drinking-water-intake pipes in Lake Erie.

The proliferation of blue-green algae, also known as cyanobacteria, is a problem in lakes across the country, including Lake Champlain. Fueled by excess phosphorus in the water from farms, fertilizers and road runoff, algae blooms appear periodically in Lake Champlain in late summer and early fall. The lake supplies drinking water to more than 300,000 people, an estimated 190,000 of whom live in Vermont.

After "high alerts" trickled in this month for blue-green algae in the St. Albans and Montpelier bays, Vermonters wondered: Could the same toxins that took Toledo's water off-line imperil Lake Champlain's drinking water?

In a sense, they already have. Though drinking water from Lake Champlain on this side of the border has never tested positive for the toxins associated with blue-green algae, some Quebec residents routinely receive notices that their water is not safe to drink. According to one study tracking public health advisories in the region between 2001 and 2004, consumers in one of the towns produced by blue-green algae regularly exceeded the Canadian drinking water guidelines.

"I've lived in Bedford since 2004, and it happens every summer," said Aleksandra Datta, a research fellow at the University of Vermont and the CEO of PhosphorTech, a company that creates and markets technology for removing phosphorus from water.

On a recent afternoon in Phibbsburg—a sleepy little village in Quebec located just minutes from the U.S.-Canadian border—green, soupy water leaked at the shores of the Missisquoi Bay. At the village quay, cyclists paused to take in the view. A teenage boy and girl at the end of the pier fished from a picnic table.

A stone's throw away, a low thrum was audible from the treatment plant, which pulls water from the bay and pipes it into Phibbsburg and Bedford.

Every year, Datta said, she receives

ENVIRONMENT



Algal green blooms fill waters like those in Montpelier Bay.

a flyer from the town warning against drinking tap water. Instead, residents can bring their own jugs and containers to a large canteen provided by the town. The warnings are followed by a second set of flyers advertising, in French and English, "Don't eat berries just in case—some berries are poisonous" and "Water can be consumed by the citizens." Datto-ups to buy most of her drinking water.

Blue-green algae releases toxins when cells die or are disturbed. The toxins can cause gastrointestinal and respiratory illnesses, as well as headaches and muscle pain. Researchers are also investigating the possibility that some of these toxins might be connected to long-term health effects and neurodegenerative diseases such as ALS.

In both Canada and Vermont, officials warn against any contact with green, soupy water. Skin contact can cause rashes and stomach illnesses, and aerosolized water droplets that contain algae can produce allergy-like symptoms. Pet owners are warned to keep animals out of blooms; two dogs died in 1999 and

2000 after coming into contact with Lake Champlain's algae-polluted water in Point au Roche, NY, and on Janquet Island, southwest of Burlington.

Currently, public water systems in the United States aren't required to test regularly for microcystin or anatoxin—toxins released by the algae. But in Vermont, Department of Environmental Conservation Commissioner David Meers awaits voluntary measures are in place, and all of the state's public water systems follow them. If operators learn about a bloom near an intake pipe, they collect water samples and send them to the state lab in Burlington for analysis.

In light of the contamination in Toledo, Meers said, DEC scientists and drinking water-system operators plan to meet and evaluate the current testing protocol.

Ames Elders, the executive director of the advocacy group Lake Champlain International, warned that Vermont faces exactly the same problems that fueled the Ohio emergency. "This is our water. This is our home," said Elders. When

Vermonters contribute to pollution in the lake, he said, "we're finding our own way."

Last week, the nonprofit Lake Champlain Coalition, which coordinates the volunteer monitoring program that tracks blue-green algae blooms, pressed its members to urge the Environmental Protection Agency to develop standards for blue-green algae toxins, there aren't any under the Safe Drinking Water Act. DEC director Lori Fisher outlined measures that the "EPA seems to be trapped in a cycle of over-analysis in search of perfect standards," and that in the meantime states have resorted to a "patchwork of different approaches in the absence of EPA leadership."

Meers said it makes sense for the EPA to take the lead on blue-green algae standards. He also said he understands the frustration of lake advocates who would like to see better standards on the horizon—now.

But "it's not the kind of research that a small state like Vermont can afford to do," said Meers.



At drinking-water treatment facilities, plant operators are doing what they can for the time being: keeping an eye on the lake, and sending off samples for testing when the need arises.

That means patrolling the area near the intake valve for the Champlain Water District. The pipe is located 75 feet below the surface of the lake in Shelburne Bay, 2,500 feet offshore. Champlain Water District supplies drinking water to roughly 70,000 residents in Chittenden County.

"We've been on the lookout for at least 10 years, because that's our job — to pay attention," said Mike Barretto, the facility's director of water quality and production. "We haven't seen any thing in 10 years."

That's not the case at the southern and northern ends of the bay, where algae blooms are more

common. Mark Simon is the owner of Simco Operation Services which oversees about 40 water treatment facilities in Vermont — including the drinking water plants for Grand Isle and North Hero.

In North Hero, Simon said, operators see blooms near the intake valves "almost annually" and work with state health officials to monitor for any possible toxins.

"Blue-green algae is a beast of its own," said Simon. While plant operators can add chemicals or other additives to treat for other types of contaminants in the water, neither the North Hero nor Grand Isle facilities could handle cyanobacteria. "It would go right through the filter."

According to the EPA, the toxins associated with blue-green algae can be tricky to detect and remove from drinking water supplies. Some treatments work, others don't, and the situation is complicated by whether cyanobacteria cells are intact or broken.

Means said he hopes the drinking water emergency in Toledo galvanizes more Vermonters to take seriously the

challenges facing Lake Champlain. It's important to ensure best practices at water treatment facilities, he said, but "the longer term, and the most important solution is preventing the blooms from happening in the first place."

On the other hand, Means doesn't want to scare anyone away from the tap. "The fact is, in the state of Vermont, we are very lucky," said Means. "We have some of the highest quality drinking water you can get anywhere — better than most bottled water."

Our neighbors to the north are not so fortunate.

Back on the Philippsburg quay, Claude Bilodeau pointed while walking her little black dog. Her first language is French, but in English she explained that she blamed the water for stomach pains and other illnesses, clutching at her stomach for emphasis. She remembered her

neighbors in Ireland, where she used to live, expressing horror upon learning Bilodeau had been drinking the tap water, and gave her several bottles of distilled spring water.

Inside the nearby treatment plant, a slender, bespectacled young man named the telephones and kept an eye on a computer monitor, where a schematic showed tanks and pipes. Asked about blue-green algae, operator Philippe Rioux explained that the treatment plant had to shut down periodically because of the problem. After a pause, he said, "I'm not sure if it was last year or the year before. The water wasn't drinkable."

Sometimes algae is so dense. Sometimes it's other problems, like too much manganese in the water. Three summers ago, he recalled, the water facility was down all summer long due to the algae blooms.

"Today it's not too bad," he said, when asked about the algae that had turned the water green that afternoon. "I've seen it much worse than that." ☐

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PHOTO COURTESY OF DUCATI VERMONT

A Fish Story: The Battle to Remove Swanton Dam

BY MARK DANIS

For 50 years, the Swanton Dam has been of almost no practical use. That's one of the few points of agreement between a group of environmentalists and locals who have been sparring for more than a decade about the future of the eight-foot-tall span across the Mississippi River.

Organizations including Lake Champlain International and the state's Fish & Wildlife Department want to remove the dam. They say it would go a long way toward restoring troubled fisheries in Lake Champlain by allowing sturgeon, walleye and other important fish to reach fertile spawning grounds seven miles to the north of the dam for the first time in two centuries.

"It is the single greatest feasible habitat-restoration project that we could have in the Lake Champlain Basin," said Wayne Laroche, conservation director at LCI and a former Vermont Wildlife commissioner. Spawning habitat for Lake Champlain's migratory fish would increase 99 percent if Swanton Dam were removed, according to a 2008 Fish & Wildlife report. The village of Swanton, which owns the dam, wouldn't have to pay a nickel for its destruction and would avoid costly repair work to the structure's deteriorated

base. None of these arguments has convinced town officials who view the dam as a valuable part of Swanton's history — and regard those who want it gone as interlopers.

"We're not just saying, 'Save this place of ours,'" says *"Wine Sailing our history"* and Ben Kilburn, the town's zoning administrator and president of the Swanton Historical Society. "It serves no purpose to them, but to us it serves a very important purpose. You want to see to destroy our environment for you?"

A potential hydropower project for the site may also work to the pro-dam side's advantage.

Federal surveys have registered 75,000 dams longer than six feet in the United States, and tens of thousands of smaller ones. The water impounding structures helped build the country by allowing settlers to generate power, irrigate croplands, control floods and store water.

But in the past 20 years, removing dams has become an increasingly popular cause in the environmental community. That can do away with rivers, build back fish — leading to erosion downstream — and make it difficult for fish to even upstream to spawn.

American Rivers, a leading advocacy group, estimates nearly 600 dams have been removed since 1994. In what was billed as one of the biggest environmental projects in recent American history, workers in 2003 began removing a 300-foot-tall dam on the Elwha River in Washington to restore a salmon run.

Since 1996, 16 of Vermont's 1,200 dams have been removed, including the DuRoi Dam on the Rattle Hill in Manchester, which came down last year to improve trout runs. Brian Fitzgerald, a recently retired dam expert from the Department of Environmental Conservation, said all have succeeded, to some degree, in restoring fish runs.

But experts have long viewed the removal of Swanton Dam as a high-priority project. Built in 1793, it was intended, so were many New England



**THEY'RE OUTSIDERS, AND
THEY'RE GOING TO TELL US TO
TAKE OUR DAMN DAM OUT?**

RED BULLWORM

dams, to support a sawmill and gravel mill. Industries, including a booming marble quarry, grew up around the dam, which was repaired and replaced several times.

When the last of the mill brooks was removed in the 1990s, the village took ownership, and the dam's useful life ended. But its devastating impact on local fish endured. The dam has prevented many Lake Champlain fish from reaching their natural spawning grounds just below Highgate Falls, contributing immeasurably to loss of fish in the river and the lake.

That includes lake sturgeon, which once thrived in Swanton waters and is now listed as endangered in Vermont. Biologists believe its 25-to-150-year lifespan may be the only reason the fish hasn't disappeared entirely. The native



sturgeon population in the area was wiped out in 1879.

Walleye still run from the lake up the Mississippi every spring, but their population has been decimated. Swanton's old-timers remember when you could practically walk across the river from one fishing boat to another during walleye season. Today, more than half the walleye in the Mississippi come from state stock.

Biologists have placed traps at the bottom of the Swanton Dam and caught viable lake sturgeon and walleye eggs. That's proof that the fish are still trying to get to Highgate Falls, and once freed back by the dam, try to spawn in the inhospitable grounds at the dam. Few fish are born.

"They're still trying to spawn," Laroche said. "We know they're there. We know the fish are still returning, and they don't have enough habitat to maintain sustainable populations."

From an environmental perspective, removing the dam is a no-brainer. Holding back change, though, is a powerful force: human history. Few Vermont towns have worked harder to preserve their pasts than Swanton.

When the old railroad station was slated for demolition in 1999, a group bought it, moved it down the road and turned it into a museum. The same group restored a caboose from the old railroad company and put it on the

museum's lawn. To replace a covered bridge destroyed by fire in 1920, the historical society learned of a decommissioned rail bridge slated to be torn down in Milton, and convinced state officials to ship it to Swanton and reassemble it on the Mississippi River as a pedestrian walkway. While they were at it, they restored the tollhouse to its old bridge, and moved it next to the railroad station.

Thirty-four local schoolchildren attended a five-day summer history camp in July.

Kilburn and the dam, which is on the Vermont Register of Historic Places, is another vital piece of Swanton's history and should remain. Located at the heart of a town of 6,500 residents that draws more Quabbin trappers than tourists, it anchors the most picturesque spot in Swanton, creating cascading falls below and a placid stretch of water above.

"We're proud of what we've been able to save," Kilburn said. "We focus on historical objects, and reminding people how important it is that we keep the historical objects that we have. The sound of falling water — take the dam out, the sound is gone. It's a very important part of who we are as a community. We love that sound."

Neighbors agree. Standing in their front lawns, Mayellen Barrows and James Barrow, whose families have both lived across the street from the dam for decades, say it's the centerpiece of their neighborhood.

LIVING ON THE LAKE



Swanton Dam

troubles have the final say. Several years ago, residents took a referendum vote against dam removal during the annual Town Meeting. They'd likely weigh in again on any new proposal to take the dam down, or sell it to a third party such as LCL, which would have the same effect.

Lancette acknowledges he has told Swanton residents that he will agitate for the dam's destruction until the day he dies. Swanton Village Manager Reg Beliveau said that kind of attitude has created angst in his community.

"That's really the root — they're outsiders, and they're going to tell us to take our damn dam out!" Beliveau said. "We're not assholes. They started the fight. Would you like it if I came into your house and told you to get rid of that old couch? Nobody cares more about that river and lake than the people in Swanton, because we live with it."

Complicating matters: Two years ago, the village submitted a preliminary application to federal regulators to build a small hydroelectric facility on the dam to generate power for the electric utility that the village has operated for decades. (Swanton, which owns the hydroelectric dam at Highgate Falls, provides power to 5,600 local residents.)

Dam-removal advocates see it as a cynical delaying tactic designed to tie up the dam in years of red tape. They say a hydro-power project on the Swanton Dam would cost millions and, given that the dam is only eight feet tall, would never generate enough power to make it economically viable.

"They said, 'If you're not going to see it, lose it,'" Beliveau said. "We said, 'OK, we'll develop hydro on it.'"

The village is waiting for \$80,000 in federal money to pay for a hydro-power feasibility study. Tentative estimates for the project run anywhere from \$3 million to 37 million, Beliveau said.

But environmental groups hope Swanton can be persuaded to give up the dam in favor of an even more historic resource — a free-flowing river that cut through the area long before humans arrived.

"What we are trying to get them to see," Elders said, "is they can give something better to their kids than a piece of concrete." ☐

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"People have wedding receptions so they can take pictures down there," Barrows said. "It's so beautiful, it makes you feel like you're camping all the time."

Environmentalists argue that not everything built by human hands is worthy of preservation. They estimate it would cost less than \$1 million to take the dam out, and are confident that groups like LCL could raise enough money through private donations to pay for it.

"What we're dealing with was the dominant way of thinking about water resources for previous generations," said James Elders, executive director of LCL. "When I'm dealing with kids on their bikes or pogoing, they don't look at a river as an industrial, utilitarian resource. They see it as part of an ecosystem that we occupy, and not something we can control with concrete and steel. It's a fairly recent shift in American attitudes."

But all the talk, there has never been an official proposal to remove the Swanton Dam. Rather than press the issue, advocates such as Lancette have maintained a regular presence at community events, talking to residents and trying to build a grassroots movement. Several years ago, the former congressman offered tours of the dam to his constituents.

Who gets to make the decision about whether the dam stays or goes? The village of Swanton — located within the town — owns the structure and its

When It Comes to Accessibility, Not All of Burlington Measures Up

BY ALICIA FREEST

Nothing's been easier for Henry's Diner this summer. The Burlington restaurant has been closed since mid-July for a customer that will make it accessible to people with physical disabilities.

Among them: Brad Stephenson, born with muscular dystrophy, a degenerative genetic disease that locked him in a wheelchair seven years ago. The 42-year-old somehow managed to negotiate the old, narrow entrance at Henry's, but then a server decided his wheelchair should wait outside.

Stephenson interpreted it as discrimination, so he filed a complaint with the Vermont Human Rights Commission. The 24-year-old Americans With Disabilities Act requires that public spaces, as well as private businesses open to the public, remove physical barriers for people with disabilities. New buildings must meet these standards, but establishments that predate the law only have to comply if it's "readily achievable." The local branch of the U.S. Department of Justice enforces the federal law, while the commission upholds the state equivalent.

A letter from the Human Rights Commission got the attention of Henry's Diner owner, Bill Maguire, who said he hadn't been aware his 89-year-old building was out of compliance. "What's really hard for those of us that aren't handicapped is we don't realize how much of a burden it is." When it re-opens, Henry's will have a new entrance ramp, an accessible restroom and the front door will open at the push of a button.

It's been almost two years since the civil rights division of the Department of Justice issued after a half dozen Burlington bars and eateries that violated the ADA. Church Street Tavern, Levee's Bistro, Three Towns, the Boulder Steak & Ale House, and Ken's Pizza and Pub all agreed to make

necessary upgrades rather than pay fines or face legal action.

Most of those earlier enforcement actions were prompted by random inspections of local businesses, rather than from actual citizen complaints, as according to Nicholas Kerest, an assistant

U.S. attorney and the DOJ's civil rights coordinator in Burlington.

Recently, a small group of Queen City residents, including Stephenson, has initiated a more activist approach to the problem. They consider Burlington as pretty navigable for people with

disabilities — especially given the number of old buildings — but it's not perfect.

"We've still got some work to do," says Ron Radmond, executive director of the Church Street Marketplace Commission. Radmond says only three of the 100 doors that open onto Church Street aren't yet accessible.

Stephenson moved to Burlington from San Antonio two years ago. A lawyer by trade, the Texas transplant has been politely informing businesses — usually by letter — when, in his judgment, they're run afoul of the law. So far, he's focused on problem areas on Church and Main streets. He also alerted the Department of Justice about the lack of handicapped parking at Congress Field. The DOJ sent a letter to the University of Vermont, which owns the property, and quickly addressed the situation, according to Stephenson.

Working Stephenson up is the city's resurrected Advisory Committee on Accessibility, which meets monthly to help guide city policy and to remove barriers — ranging from the "architectural" to "attitudinal" — for people with disabilities.

Ralph Montefusco, whose wife has multiple sclerosis, chairs the committee. One of its big achievements, he said, has been working with the First Night organizers to make the city's New Year's Eve celebration more accessible. Montefusco also points to less tangible feats — improving awareness, for instance, among city officials.

Still, missing curb cuts, deteriorating sidewalks and inaccessible restrooms remain problematic. And the biggest barrier is money.

The Department of Public Works estimates that 48 percent of the city's sidewalks are "deficient." During the last several years, DPW has replaced roughly one mile of sidewalk annually, although



Bill Maguire's rebuilt Henry's Diner.

LAW ENFORCEMENT

the department's director, Clayton Spencer, said he expects to "finish up" that figure during the current year. Sidewalks require replacement every 25 years, according to Spencer, and Burlington has 127 miles of sidewalk.

Clayton Buckley, a partner at Burlington-based South Buckley Architects, appreciates the costs and design challenges associated with making a place accessible. "All architects, not just disabled ones, are pretty actively engaged with accessibility issues," he said. "I firmly believe it's important. It is a civil right. But I also understand that it costs a lot of money to put in an elevator."

Buckley 50, has been using a wheelchair since he broke his back at age 20. His 5-year-old son is starting kindergarten at the Edmunds Elementary School in a few weeks. When he and his wife went to meet the principal several months ago, they realized the three-story building doesn't have an elevator, making their choice of school choice. "I want to be a part of his education. I want to be able to go to the school and see the principal and do all the things that parents do," Buckley said.

Buckley brought his concerns to the principal and other school district officials, and he's been told they plan to add an elevator within two years. Edmunds Middle School added an elevator in 2003 after a years-long advocacy effort.

"The thing that is a little worrying," Buckley said during an interview in his spacious Pine Street office, "is its dependent on a bond, and right now asking for more money for the schools is a hard thing to do."

Magraw can also appreciate the price of accessibility. Her's has been closed for five weeks and he estimates the lost business and the upgrades have cost him \$200,000. He could have done it for less, Magraw said, but rather than risk getting another complaint, "we decided we might as well go all the way in."

The best defense may be a good offense. Lawyers in states such as New York and California have taken an aggressive — and sometimes brazenly

profit-driven — approach to enforcing the law. A 2002 New York Times story described a lawyer who sued 200 businesses in less than three years, drawing on a "regular group of people with disabilities" to find plaintiffs. Under the ADA, plaintiffs can't sue for damages, but judges can order businesses to pay the legal bill.

Stephenson has been putting that "readily achievable" clause — the "magic language," as he calls it — to test, in part because he's hoping to start practicing ADA law in Vermont.

But he's taken a very different tack — despite being a lawyer, he has yet to file a suit. "We have that conversation to our community about the current and ideal state. We want this to be a collaborative process. On the one hand we want to compel businesses to comply with the law... but we don't want to be perceived as a thorn in their side."

Buckley too, said he "works hard at being reasonable about accessibility." Taking a litigation approach could backfire in a place like Burlington. Referencing the legal tactics in New York, he pointed out, "It's a much bigger pond. You don't have to get along with everybody quite as much as you do in a small community."

Both Buckley and Stephenson have stepped up in response to barriers that have threatened their personal activities, but they each take care to point out what they're doing goes beyond self-interest.

"I'm not completely comfortable with being the face of the Edmunds Elementary elevator project," Buckley said. "I'm happy to sort of add urgency to it, but really in my opinion, the school needs an elevator for a lot of reasons, and not least of which so that kids who are disabled can go to school there."

"I didn't really set out to be an advocate," Stephenson said, sitting in Leaning's Bistro & Cafe, which added an automatic dancer, among other changes, after being on the receiving end of the DOJ's enforcement action two years ago. But, he continues, "It's not like we're asking them for a favor. This is federal law."

Contact: alio@sevendaysmt.com

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Daysied and Confused

The party's over, but some readers still have questions about our annual "Daysie" harvest. Please keep in mind that the Daysies represent a readers survey. Seven Days staff does not choose the winners. Thus it is not appropriate for us to change the name of a winner nor to handpick "honorable" Daysies (with the exception this year of late Burlington DJ A-Dog). We try to describe categories in the clearest way possible, but misunderstandings do occasionally occur. Also, voters don't necessarily know the last names of individuals and note their business name instead. Finally, we create an "Outside Chittenden County" distinction only when a sufficient swell of votes in a particular category justifies it. Each year, we do take your feedback into account, so thanks for the comments.



MISLEADING CATEGORY

My question is: Why did a spa win over an individual person in the Seven Dayses Best Massage/Body Worker category ("All the Best," July 30)? It seems to me Cynthia's spa should have been under "best spa" only.

Krista Steele
UNIONVILLE

Spa of Consciousness Massage
was a finalist in the category.

REVOLUTIONARY IDEA

I loved the Daysies edition ("All the Best," July 30). However, having been a vegetarian for 40 years and eating out in Burlington about three times a week, I need to point out that the city finally has a world class vegetarian restaurant, Revolution Kitchen. Even Ryan Adams recently gave them a shout out from the Pylon stage, which shows this lovely needs to be noticed and they should be awarded an honorable Daysie!

Graham Parker
BURLINGTON

HEAR THIS!

I really have to throw cold water on the annual Seven Dayses readers' poll ("All the Best," July 30), but your new category of Best College Radio Station is patently unfair to those stations that are located outside Chittenden County.

Unlike most commercial radio stations and Vermont Public Radio, which can be heard through much of northern and central Vermont, most college radio stations have limited signal reach. Daysie winner

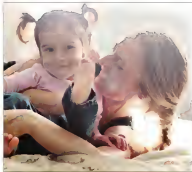
WKUU-FM at the University of Vermont in Burlington, with its 450-watt signal, can be heard as far north as Milton, as far south as Vergennes, and as far east as Richmond and Jericho.

On the flip side, two of the other four finalists — WGDR-FM at Goddard College in Plainfield and WISC-FM at Johnson State College — cannot be heard anywhere in Chittenden County. The third, WRNC-FM at Middlebury College, can be heard in Chittenden County only in its southernmost regions. The fourth finalist, WWVU at Saint Michael's College in Colchester, has a weak 100-watt signal that can barely be heard even in South Burlington.

It's therefore no wonder, given that the majority of Seven Dayses readers live in Chittenden County, that WKUU-FM's win was, by the editors' own admission, no contest. For next year's Daysies, I strongly suggest that the Best College Radio Station category be split between inside and outside Chittenden County. Otherwise, the other stations don't have a ghost of a chance of winning.

Scottie Sanders
MONTPELIER

Sanders is a smooth jazz and R&B DJ at WGDR-FM.



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BCA's Visiting Critic Program Plays Matchmaker With Artists

BY JIAN CHANG-WAREN

Artists are really making for it. Critical appraisal of their work, that is. So says **BCA** **CRITIC** center **BJ HELLERMAN**, whose job often takes him to artists' studios around the state. "People ask, 'How do I get people to write about my work? How do I talk to a gallery?' How do I get my work critiqued?" he says.

PEOPLE ASK, "HOW DO I GET MY WORK CRITIQUED?"

BJ HELLERMAN

"My response was always 'I don't know!' Because no one is going to go out of Burlington unless you pay them."

Hellerman decided to address the matter. Last year, BCA launched a Visiting Critic program, which is "designed to connect Vermont artists with influential arts writers, institutional curators and commercial galleries."



Laura Merz

The premise is simple. BCA invites — and pays — three art world noters and shillers to come to Vermont. Local artists fill out an online application, describing their work and why they'd benefit from a studio visit. BCA then matches artists and critics. When each critic arrives in Vermont, he or she gives a public lecture, and then spends one-on-one time with the selected artists.

Two critics will arrive in Burlington

over the next two months. Laura Merz, a curator, writer and director of life-forms gallery in New York City, will visit from August 16 to 20. The application deadline for a visit with her is this Friday, August 15.

Margot Norrie, a curator with the New Museum of Contemporary Art in New York City, will visit from September 12 to 14. The deadline for a studio visit with her is Friday, August 29. Hellerman hopes to make the Visiting Critic program a consistently scheduled and better-known BCA resource. But it needs sponsors, he says. "We can facilitate the administrative part, but we do need someone to support it. I also hope the paid jobs budget, so we can better match the interests of the critic with the talent of artists." ☐

INFO

burlingtonartscenter.org/visitingcriticprogram

LIT NOTES

The literary heavy hitters keep coming at **VERMONT COLLEGE OF FINE ARTS**. This Friday, VCCA welcomes best-selling author Cheryl Strayed, whose memoir *Wild* (from Lost to Found on the Pacific Crest Trail) is now a movie starring Jesse Williams and due for an Oscar-nominee December release. For more details, see our calendar section.

Looking further ahead, it's time for it to be over to the dates of the 10th annual **VERMONT BOOK AWARDS**, September 18 to 21. In a year when young adult titles seem to reign supreme, both on local radio lists and at the box office, perhaps it's appropriate that the list is dedicated to one of the honored grandmothers of modern children's lit: **KAROLINE PATRICKSON** of *Barre*. Her classic *Bridge to Terabithia* is familiar to both readers and reviewers and she has won two Newbery Medals, two National Book Awards and Swedish Astrid Lindgren Memorial Award among many other honors.

Don't let *Patricson* at **VERMONT COLLEGE OF FINE ARTS** center, which hosted the list for

QUICK LIT: LOVE AND DEATH IN THE AGE OF REVOLUTIONS

The *Hour of the Mind* by **IRINA RYAN**, author **ALBANY** is a psychological novel on par with *Anna Karenina* when Nicholas Kozlov. Each writer here used their experience in the field of psychotherapy to enrich and complicate their fictional characters. (Playwright to have: *Hampshire* from a psychotherapy career in Hitching.) Each writer also uses historical fiction — *Gray's* novel is set in 19th-century Europe — to expose those things that make us both flawed and admirable as human beings.

It's time to find a self-published novel of this quality in craft and execution. *Gray's* uses third-person omniscient narration to get us inside the heads of his characters, and he is authoritatively deft in his period settings, military uniforms, books, apparel, appointments with servants, the cabaret secrets of Munich joined with churches and cafes. Take this passage: "His footfalls echoed and disoriented against windows made from sheets of plate glass. The street much better dressed than those in Brink-Litovsk or Kirovov, the gutters

swest clean, but here and there patches of dark ice touched the cobblestones, and he shortened his stride to avoid a fall."

Opening during a full in the Napoleonic wars, the novel explores a Russian cavalry officer's conflicted efforts to avenge the death of his younger brother at the hands of a Prussian cavalry officer. *Alina* Ryabinskiy's brother, *Micha*, was killed in an one combat in the private to a larger battle, differing reports of how each combatant handled himself complicate Ryabinskiy's task, which was imposed on him by his father, a wealthy landowner and former general.

When Ryabinskiy backs down his brothers' killer in Munich and comes to know him, he begins to doubt the side of the argument that would justify murdering *Louis* Vols in pay for *Micha*'s death. Vols and Ryabinskiy have much in common: both have haunted by the death of *Alexis* brother, both live the same woman. Furthermore, both lost hopelessness in the hands of fate as the potential for violence seethes

below the surface of their developing friendship and their shared desires for personal honor.

Gray creates two leading men and two leading women who are achingly realistic because they are psychologically complex. We care about them. The men are strong of will, intelligent, conflicted. The women are stronger of will and more conflicted, as they must deal with even more complex others in their lives.

This is a novel in which single women even when in love and loved in return are still viewed by their keepers as mistresses and by those on the street as whores. Loved or not, they are easily discarded and wary constantly. The interior monologue of one captures our uncertainty: "The future, I don't see a time when I should even think about. With luck, we'll be together but spring, maybe, a little longer. But beyond that, as hard as I look, all I can see is falling once again into a black death I can't climb out of, swallowed up."

By contrast, the men are mad



concerned with battles past and future, with questions of honor and duty issues which weighing love in the balance. Everyone is off-balance and looking for answers.

Rather than focusing on the events unfolding in this age of warfare, *Gray* keeps his conflicts mostly psychological. Noble scenes appear in small snapshots of memory as characters try to reconcile



David Sorenson

journal from the ever burgeoning **BURLINGTON WRITERS WORKSHOP**. While the initial installment will be digital only, the editors plan to have their first print issue out next May. Submissions are open to all; find the guidelines at mudseason.vtvc.com. The BWW also recently scored a grant from the Vermont Community Foundation to run a series of "digital storytelling" workshops with **HUNDREDS OF STORYMAKERS** at its writing center located in Burlington's **SHAWNO**. Find upcoming workshop info at burlingtonwritersworkshop.com.

MARCO HARRISON

Contact: margot@sevendaysvt.com

INFO

A Conversation With Cheryl Shaver Friday August 15, 4-5 PM, at Alumn Hall, Vermont College of Fine Arts, in Montpelier. Free, vchv.edu

Burlington Book Festival: September 10 to 21. Opening ceremonies and festival activities: Friday, September 10, 3 pm, at Parker Free Library in Burlington. Free. Mud Season: 10 am launch party: Saturday, September 20, 7 pm, midnight, at the Van Ness Room, Harts-Worman, in Burlington. burlingtonbookfestival.com

the past several years, this year the three-day celebration of the written word moves uphill to the **VERMONT FREE LIBRARY**. The Friday opening ceremony will feature an appearance by Pulitzer and a tribute address from **SAVING PRIVATE RYAN** of South Burlington herself a prolific children's author (She'll publish her 100th book this year).

Also on the 10th's schedule: a Saturday evening launch party for the first issue of **Mud Season**, the new literary

their understanding of the mores and events. Much of the novel's tension comes from Rochester's unwillingness to completely forsake father-in-law for vengeance, and from his discomfort with his father's expectations that he marry well and take over as lord of the estate. None of these scenarios sit well with Rochester.

Even though we are drawn to the characters, the book features enough improbable plot twists to make the reader pause. For example, they describe a significant female character dressing as a man going into battle on horseback and wounding a significant male character who later becomes her lover. This almost far-fetched scenario stands out in contrast to the writer's obvious careful research on 18th-century Europe. They have presented the remarkable as fact. If we read in a newspaper that a construction worker fell several stories and was killed from injury in the final seconds of descent,

when his supporters believed in a protruding beam, we shake our heads and pause. The man's good luck, but when we encounter such a scenario in fiction, we shake our heads and say "Not very likely."

With *Dray's book*, however, we shake our heads and continue to read. The novel's strengths in portraying character outweigh its plot manipulations.

Over those characters and the streets of Munich loom the onion domes of the city's cathedral, much like the moral hammer of an omnipresent church in a novel by Flaubert. Like Flaubert, they know good and evil is unclearly defined in this tale. Unlike Flaubert, he leaves his chapters short and intense with emotion, and very freedom in exposing the multiple selves we carry around with us.

L. E. SMITH

INFO

The Man of Period by Ann Gray, 232 pages, \$14

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WTF?

WHY IS THERE A DRY-DOCKED FERRY AT SHELBOURNE SHIPYARD?

If you've recently taken a walk past Red Bank Park, strolling around Shelburne Bay, you may have spotted them after. Or if you've explored the reaches of Shelburne Tunnels, wandering down Harbor Road until you could go no farther, you may have seen it up close: a dry-docked ferry being fixed up at Shelburne Shipyards. You may have thought, WTF? Or maybe you didn't pay it any mind.

If you live or work near Lake Champlain, or spend any time recreating on it, ferries are a common sight and easy to ignore. Maybe all you think about them is that they move people from one side of the lake to the other — about 1 million people per year, as it happens. Seeing a grounded ferry is not so common — with the exception of the retired steamer *Tweedduge* at Shelburne Museum. But the one dry-docked at Shelburne Shipyards isn't really a mystery. It's there for maintenance.

The pre-war and sometimes quirky history of Vermont's ferries is interesting, though. It's outlined on the website of the Lake Champlain Transportation Company (LCT), which, under various names and owners, has been continuously operating ferry service since 1816. Fun fact: The latest crossing to LCT's history was in August 1986 owing to a flash concert at the former Plattsburgh Airbase.

Back in the 19th century, when Burlington was home to a thriving lumber industry, ferries moved commercial goods up and down the lake, some were used for luxury cruises. Eventually, modernization and railroads ended ferries' heyday, and the transportation takeover by cars and trucks wrecked the final blow.

But we still need to get across the lake. Now, Vermont's ferry service exists primarily to connect commuters, truckers and other travelers to the New York side, and vice versa, if you live on Vermont's west coast, you probably know that the ferries cross in three locations: The northwestern, at Grand Isle, runs 24/7 year-round and provides a vital 14-minute link for commuters to and from the Plattsburgh area. The 10-mile Burlington-to-Port Kent crossing takes an hour and is only in service during the summer (ending this year on September 28). The Charlotte-to-Bloxom journey clocks in at 26 minutes and is available year-round, in conditions permitting.



LCT operations manager Heather Stewart has been with the ferry company for 32 years. "I could drive a boat before I could drive a car," she says. As a young woman looking for summer work, Stewart stepped at the office to ask if LCT was hiring. "Two days later, I was on the dock," she recalls. "It was supposed to be temporary, but I ended up getting my captain's license. I'm 55 now and still here."

Stewart has witnessed many transformations in the fleet, which now numbers 10 and has been under the management of Burlington's Pomeroy family since 1979. She describes the rebuild of the Champlain Bridge — between Crown Point, NY, and Addison, VT — as a challenging but exciting time for the company.

Because of safety concerns, that bridge was closed on October 30, 2009, and demolished on December 28. Lengthy rezoning and construction restrictions ensued. To ease the situation for frequent users, before the new bridge opened nearly two years later, LCT ran a temporary, year-round route in the location. The additional passenger ferries were used to build a new ferry. Stewart

says it was named after the original Pomeroy partner who had purchased the company, Raymond C. Pomeroy Jr., as a surprise honor to him, notes the LCT website. (His son, Ray Pomeroy III, is now the owner.)

The most impressive vessel in the LCT fleet, at least in terms of longevity is the *Adirondack*. Officially nicknamed *Adi*, she just completed her 101st year of service. To put that in perspective, the boat is just one year younger than the *Thames*. She still makes trips across the lake every summer, on the Burlington-to-Port Kent route, as the oldest double-ended American ferry boat in history.

But with age comes the need for repairs. The U.S. Coast Guard heavily regulates LCT's fleet, so it does all commercial vessels. Engines and gears must be checked, steel sheets replaced, the to die list is unique to each vessel. As a result, there's no typical ferry lifespan, since every boat consists of both new and old parts.

In addition to undergoing quarterly and annual in-water evaluations, a ferry must be taken out of the water every five years for a complete hull inspection.

That explains the current leafhopper status of the *Adirondack* at Shelburne Shipyards.

Sometimes, though, it's too late to aim at making up. In 1994 the *Rossmuck*, a dual ferry with a 308-foot wooden hull, began to take on water due to several large leaks. She was towed to the middle of the lake and intentionally beached to sink here, the Rossmuck still resides at the bottom of the lake.

That ill-fated example aside, LCT aims to keep its vessels up to par and serve its lake-crossing customers. The company appears to inspire loyalty: "The average length [of employment] is 35 years," Stewart says, describing LCT as a family. When a pilot or crew member is sick, "we can call and say, 'Come on down' at three, four in the morning," she adds, "and they will come and help out. It's pretty cool."

Stewart sums up LCT's mission and history thus: "That keep-it-local thing — we've been doing that for a long time." ☺

INFO

Outrigger is a weekly column about something I find you burning question to write me at out@nytimes.com.

Dear Cecil,

Thinking about all the money spent on ads, I was wondering if there's any hard evidence on how effective advertisements are in this day and age. Everyone I know hates advertisements, and I can't remember the last time I bought something because advertisements told me to.



Mark

This question has tormented business moguls since the dawn of commerce. The following formulation will be of no comfort to them but it's indisputably true:

1. Advertising is a complete waste of time and resources.
2. Except when it works.

The conventional defense of advertising, as expressed by marketing consultant Nigel Hollis in a 2003 Atlantic piece titled "Why Good Advertising Works (Even When You Think It Doesn't)," boils down to this: (a) U.S. businesses wouldn't spend \$70 billion annually on TV advertising, *if it* didn't help them accomplish something; and (b) we can all think of memorable ads and ad campaigns, ranging from the proverbial "Cal-I-for-u" Philip Morris case to the delectably oddball Old Spice spots of recent years.

What Hollis' cherry analysis overlooks is the vast dump-hill of advertising that didn't work, or more precisely didn't do any better than connecting

advertising. Had the companies that paid for this druck quietly agreed to keep their money on the till, they'd have maintained market share at no cost to their bottom lines.

The problem, dear to any business owner who's ever had to allocate an ad budget, is that while it's reasonably easy to demonstrate that advertising in general works, and that some past campaigns have succeeded, the chances of the campaign you're now contemplating doing you any good are a complete unknown.

Then problem hasn't gotten any less vexing in the age of the internet, but it's changed in a fundamental way. Years ago there was considerable faith in the remark commonly attributed to Philadelphia Department store magnate John Wanamaker: "Half the money I spend on advertising is wasted; the trouble is, I don't know which half." In the days when print media dominated, and to a considerable extent after the rise of broadcasting, advertising meant a leap of faith. You spent X amount on advertising

and sold Y amount of product, but who knew how much X had to do with Y ?

With online advertising, in contrast, it's all too apparent: People click on your ad or they don't. Sure, not everybody who clicks buys, and not everybody who doesn't click doesn't buy, but the click-through rate gives a rough idea of whether any body's paying attention — and, mostly nowadays, they're not. Once upon a time a good click-through rate for a banner ad was 5 percent or better; now it's more like 0.2 to 0.3 percent.

Partly for that reason, even though online advertising is where the world is headed, print, despite its steep decline, remains the financial mainstay of many old-line publishing companies. Sure, advertisers may suspect that traditional advertising, print ads especially, don't accomplish much. But the first-line metrics of many online campaigns remain all double.

The evolving challenges of internet advertising is a column for another day. First, the larger question: While most advertising doesn't do jack, some succeeds brilliantly. What's the difference?

For a glimpse of the answer, let's turn to a remarkable advertising success story—General Insurance. Consider:

- Insurance is, beyond a doubt, the most boring subject on Earth—and hence, in its early days, was perhaps the world's most boring insurance company. Its name stands for "Government Employee Insurance Company" (somebody's idea of a marketing play—the firm has always been a privately owned, for-profit enterprise. Lesson: Successful advertising doesn't require an exciting product.)

- Although the Geico gecko has become iconic, using an animated spide-scribbler is hardly a groundbreaking notion. (Remember Tony the Tiger, anyone?) Geico's slogan, if you can call it that ("Fifteen minutes could save you 15 percent or more on car insurance") doesn't rank with "Just do

it* for memorability. Lesson number two: You need good but not necessarily genius creativity.

- What put Geico over the top—and this is the most important lesson of all—was its willingness to come back once it had stumbled on a formula that worked. Geico's management turned to animation because of an actors' strike, and realized it had a winner only when the first gecko ads were followed by a bump in sales. That opportunity didn't need to knock twice. Largely at the prying of the gray who runs its parent company, Warren Buffett, Geico spends more than a billion dollars annually promoting itself in a broad array of media. Geico commercials have been inescapable for about an 18 years.

Has it paid off? Two data points. First, Grace was the no. 9 auto insurer before it began its marketing blitz, now it's no. 2. Second, when I was in the market for car insurance recently — and I like to think I'm as impervious to advertising as the next guy — I sold to Mrs. Adams. We should check out Grace.

In the end we bought elsewhere. But I know why that guy in Omaha always has a little smile.

INFO

Is there something you need to get straight? Cecil Adams can deliver the Straight dope on any topic. Write Cecil Adams at the Chicago Tribune, 110 N. Dearborn, Chicago, IL 60610. Or call 800/368-4878.

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POLY PSY ON THE PUBLIC USES AND ABUSES OF EMOTION BY JUDITH LEVINE

To Stop Campus Rape, Let Kids Grow Up

*Parini honors perpetuates the whole
cheerful American system of dating
of choosing a movie you don't really
want to see... of sitting for hours in
an uncomfortable restaurant just
to be with a girl that you like. They
reinforce the notion that women
are some sort of special object, to be
seen at certain hours.*

*They also reinforce the idea that
women are objects for sex, rather
than friends or companions in
love. Everyone knows that parini
rules do nothing to dissuade people
from personal interference, or to
defend against pregnancy. But they
do serve to deny the less explicitly
sexual aspects of romance, talking
over breakfast, talking comfortably
in the car, arriving about some
phase of that evening's work.*

This passage, from a Harvard
Crimes-up-ed on the rules re-
stricting Harvard and Radcliffe's
students from sleeping over in
each other's dorms, was written in 1963
by Paul Goren, the future Village Voice
staffer and prominent Jewish progress
as he died in 1968, at 44, of leukemia.
Goren's sophistication was extreme:
drawn in 1968. But his eagerness for
colleges to act acting in two parents
work. All over, college students were
agitating to rise their own sex lives. It
wasn't long before they continued en-
lightenment on child sex responsibility. In the
late 1960s, parental rules started falling.
By the early 1970s, co-ed dorms opened.

Between 1970 and 1973, states also
started loosening their drinking ages
from 21 to 18. Legislators figured a
person smart enough to vote should be
allowed with a beer.

I raised the Goren piece while
searching for insight on the recent
upsurge about campus rape. The essay's
sweet vision of grown-up sexual com-
munity between college-age people
could not be farther from the bleak
contemporary from college today —
the tales of gang rape, of administrations
covering up accusations and letting
perpetrators off easy or convicting the
accused as kangaroo courts without due
process. Everyone feels bemused, so
one sobriety.

The solution proposed are the so-
lutions were already got, only a little

finer. A federal Campus Accountability
and Safety Act would mandate that
colleges conduct and publish yearly surveys
of sexual assaults, train people to con-
duct investigations, professionally and
impartially, offer victims assistance, and
coordinate with police.

On two object that enforcing criminal
law is not the colleges' job, it's the
criminal justice system's. But then, the courts
should do better, too.

Everybody calls for more rape
prevention education, as if colleges
weren't doing enough, with badly
systems and orientation-week sessions
on consent and violence, and elaborate
policies like the one at Antioch College,
which requires that freshmen obtain verbal
permission not just to initiate sex but
to coast each touch, kiss or insertion
within the encounter.

How did we get here from that heady
moment in 1968?

I won't romanticize campus life
in the 1970s, when I went to college. There
was rape. Perpetrators were beginning to
reveal its ubiquity and demand its end.
Some didn't really believe anything
would change. In August our Will
Mrs. Rosen, and Rager, the midrange
movement's foundational text, Susan
Rowanville suggested that history's
endless sequence of male sexual violence
was biologically inevitable. "By understand-
ing that — the inescapable construction
of their organs — the human male was a
producer and the human female served as
his natural prey."

Anders Breivik went further:
"Violence is a synonym for intercourse."

From where I stood, I just marched
and fished, things looked serious. My
fellow friends and I were angry, sure,
we wanted men to stop hurting women.
But sexual safety was not an end in itself.
We hoped safety would enhance social
freedom, which would also pleasure. We
weren't guarding our personal "bound-
aries." We were seeking connection.

The first flow of intellectuals was not
antithetical to these goals. No, there
were feminists. Yes, violence, enabled by
bombs and drugs.

But here's another story. The only
time I ever got passing-out stoned was
during my senior year in high school, on
a college visit. I remember bourbon and
pot. I remember making out with a tall
man. Next thing I knew, I was waking up
on a couch surrounded by party detritus.
Someone had taken all my shoes and
covered me with a blanket. The tall man,
who apparently lived there, was dozing in
with coffee. No one tried to rape me.

Just an anecdote. But, for a time, it
seemed happy carelessness and innocent
sanctuary out in the middle.

Then things started sliding. Reagan
was elected as a wave of right-wing moral
dist backlash. In 1984, Congress passed
the Adolescent Family Life Act, which
funneled millions to church groups to
build the foundations of "chastity" —
later renamed abstinence — education.

The same year laid the first tremors
of hysteria about satanic abuse and

rotting pedophiles. Later, parents would be confining their children with helmets and cellphones every time they left the house alone — if they were allowed to leave the house alone.

Dowdle and her allies circled the wagons against pornography, R&M and prostitution, calling them all violence against women.

The 1984 National Minimum Drinking Age Act pressured states to return the legal threshold to 21 or less highway construction funds. Mothers Against Drunk Driving spearheaded the law in response to rising highway fatalities. But in 1984, the only answer to irresponsible drinking was no drinking at all.

Today America has the highest drinking age in the world. Virtually every high school has a drug-and-alcohol-prevention program and a chapter of the aptly named SADD, or Students Against Drunk Driving. The ideal is abstinence until the magic age of 21.

The same goes for sex education. Its arguments against hook sex are similar to those against underage drinking. Both lead to bad grades, low self-esteem, addiction, partner violence, unwanted babies, diseases and car crashes. Sex, drink and drugs add up to trouble and pain.

Pleasure is not mentioned. Pleasure is for adults.

But every kid knows that getting high is fun and sex feels good.

So young people arrive at college parched, horny and unskilled at social drinking or sexual relations, and go into hyper-party mode. Still too young to drink at a bar, they "progress" — gently so much as they can or fast as they can — before going out. Ninety percent of alcohol consumed by Americans younger than 21 is in binge drinking. Eighty percent of campus rapes involve alcohol — lots of it.

Reasonable people, including former Middlebury College president John McCordell, have argued that lowering the drinking age would encourage kids to a glass of wine at dinner or a beer at the ball game. Alcohol would lose the allure of the forbidden, and young people might drink for congeniality, not to induce a coma. Few expect this reform to happen.

Abstinence education also appears here to stay. Even "comprehensive" sex

ed now leads with saying no. This strikes me as the equivalent of a *driver's ed* class that teaches the best way to avoid car accidents is to stay out of cars.

Americans want to protect children by keeping them children. It doesn't work. You can't protect women by infantilizing them, either.

Violence will not end until men stop viewing women, as Cowen put it, as "objects for use." But neither will it end if we keep viewing women as "special objects" in need of special protection. Emily Yaffe implied as much in *Alone* when she wrote that she tells her daughter that the best way to prevent rape is to avoid getting wanted. "If I had a son," she added, "I would tell him that it's in his self-interest not to be the drunken frat boy

who finds himself accused of raping a drunken classmate." Yaffe stressed that perpetrators are responsible for rape, not victims. But she was charged with antifeminist victim-blaming anyway.

In fact, she was doing the opposite: expecting both young women and young men to take responsibility for themselves.

Cowen's piece on practical ethics was less a critique of the structure of an campus life than an ode to the satisfactions of off-campus life: shopping for groceries, scheming with working neighbors, even coping with loneliness. A student who does all this, he noted with enthusiasm, might "grow up more quickly."

Among the rewards of growing up, he counted an egalitarian sexual relationship.

Now we know the one can't happen without the other. To be equal, women must recognize themselves as adults, neither allowing men to abuse them nor expecting men to protect them. For men to grow up, they must recognize women as equals, people like themselves. Equality, not protection, is the antidote to sexual violence.

College students can learn to measure the responsibilities and enjoy the pleasures of adulthood, and be safe — but only if adults stop treating them like children. ☐

INFO

Paul Peay is a Los Angeles-based columnist for *Jezebel* and *Esquire*. Got a comment on this story? Contact jezebel@newyorkmag.com.

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Life's a Beach

Hanging with the "mayor" of the Burlington Boathouse D-Dock

BY XIAN CHIANG-WAREN

Kent Casella has played 18 characters over 226 episodes of "Law & Order: Special Victims Unit," an analyst in 2004's Oscar winner *A Beautiful Mind* and a smattering of other supporting roles in television and film. Each summer, though, he returns to his favorite role, the "mayor" of D-Dock at the Burlington Boathouse. He's among the many boaters who don't just explore or dine into Lake Champlain during the summer months—they live on it.

On a blindingly bright day in early August, Casella, 58, aquarist, boat-D-Dock and waterside aboard his boat. It's a 1978 38-foot line skiff—named Marie C, for his grandmother—and resides at slip 82, a \$1,500 per-year prime slice of real estate near the end of the finger pier.

On shore, the foot of College Street is a swarm of activity. Vendors hawk fresh cream and artisanal chocolate pops, visitors wander into the 1830 Lake Aquarist and Science Center, bicyclists whiz past sans molting out on the grass, and the Spirit of Ethos Afro DJ docks with a rambles. Out near the end of D-Dock, the actor gazes at

his virtually unobstructed view of the Adirondacks and the forthcoming sunset.

"Ship 87's home," says Casella with a broad smile. He and Marie C started out 10 years ago in a slip closer to the Boathouse ramp. Each summer, Casella moved down the dock until he got a coveted slip further out in the water. "I wanted to be [in 87] because I have a great view of the fireworks," he explains. "I have a great view of the sunset. I'm still somewhat pretentious, though the north wind can be heavy."

"And," he adds, "there's a real community here on this dock."

Casella owns a house in Burlington that he rents out during the summer, and he stays in New York City when he is acting work. But what keeps him coming to northern Vermont, he says, is the lake—and the people he finds on it.

"We're always doing something on the weekends," he says. "It's a neighborhood, almost. And I've been so much they call me the mayor."

Casella shows off the wooden gavel his D-Dock friends made for him, which reads "His Honor: Mr. Kent Casella, Mayor of D-Dock." The title isn't entirely

a joke. "I have the keys to everyone's boat," Casella says, "because they know that when they're away, I'll look after their boat. [I] make sure no one gets in."

At just past 4:00 on a weekday, D-Dock is deserted aside from Casella. He walks me down the dock, pointing at boats and rattling off the names of some of his past-time neighbors. "Walt and his wife, Guiney, they're in the graphic business in Reno; they come up on Thursdays, usually, but sometimes they'll come up on Tuesday nights 'cause they just got this new big boat, so they want to be on it as much as possible," Casella says.

"That's Jen's, he's always traveling. He'll be back Labor Day. Leo and Marilyn's down at the end; there will come up pretty much every weekend. They live down south a bit, but Leo practices law up here. There's a new guy, Paul, who's got a softball down there. Paul and Brenda, Paul's retired now, so he's been every day—I've not sailing now."

Casella is casually dressed in swim trunks and a slouchy short, and boasts the kind of tan a person gets after months in the sun. He also has the kind of mustache that stands as actor work as

an Italian extra on TV shows ("Renoir," "Boardwalk Empire," Casella notes ruefully. "The Sopranos," too. I never got cast in. "I'd get called in because I had an Italian last name, but I go in and I don't really look as Italian as these guys you see [in New York]," he jokes. "I mean, they've got the clothes and everything.") This summer, he's working at Trader Joe's in South Burlington to supplement his cash flow.

While living in D-Dock all summer may not be the norm, overnight guests are not uncommon at the Boathouse and other downtown docking areas, where visitors can walk up the street for an evening out. "Every night you get a nice sunset," Casella points out, "and then you walk right up and you go to Loring's [Bistro] or L'Amoroso. You see a movie at the [Marble] Room [Cinema]... You're up in a marina in Colchester, and you don't get to just go out. That you get to be in the city."

As Burlington's Parks and Recreation waterfront division coordinates, Ron Morone points out, the community comes to the Boathouse, too. "Many of the other members are private," says Morone, 32. "But this is a public facility. Anyone can come down here to watch the sunset, be on the boats and walk around the dock."

The D-Dock crew, she adds, contributes significantly to that view. "They really make what's wonderful about the Boathouse," Morone says. "With them, you walk down the dock, you're a part of something."

From the time the Boathouse opens—this year in mid-May—and is closed on the fall, Casella sleeps on Marie C. He says he likes the porch-down lifestyle on a boat. "It simplifies things," he says. But it's hard for him to give down the appeal. "I just, I don't know, it kills me to sleep. Maybe there's just something in the blood. I just always want to be in the water or on the water."

But not many people have the kind of work life that accommodates a full summer on a boat. "I'm probably the only one who lives here all the time," Casella acknowledges. "But if you come back on a Friday or Saturday afternoon, you'll catch everybody. It gets a little crazy."

Indeed, he had Casella bringing me down in slip 86, on the dock of Wolfgang and Gudrun Nordström's new 15-foot "stream boat." The lake is glassy, the sun is sinking and strains from the Offspring concert drift down from Waterfront Park.

"When there's a north wind, we get really good sound from the concerts."



Casella observes laity: One time, he remembers, when Grace Potter was playing, he took a photographer out on the water to get shots of the concert; the guy repaid him and a group of friends with frozen oysters.

"We get the best of everything," Gadsden Nisenzold agrees, offering me seed coffee in a vase along with a stone.

The Neutolds own Stone Tech, a Barrington-based company that sells diamond cut tools to the granite industry. Originally from Germany, the couple moved to the U.S. in 1986. "Two weeks later, Wolf bought our first boat," Gudrun Neutold says.

"It was 1988," Wolfgang Norfield remembers. "And I didn't have the money to pay for it, either. I had a hundred dollars. It wasn't enough. Then I went to the Northfield (Savings) Bank and a guy there gave me the money. Today, he makes sausage. I still buy the sausage from him."

"Was that the sausage we had the other day?" Cassie asks, and Wolfgang Nierfeld nods.

Down the dock, a group of three kids dive-bomb into the lake. In her slip at the end of the pier, Marilyn Benson calls her dog, Anne. "He was voted 'best dog'...

dog" last year," she tells me later.) Across the way, commercial painter Ryan Mabel hangs out in his family's boat. Closer to the ramp, Bill Magnus, a real estate agent, is preparing to go down town with his family.

"All of us, we have this spot here," Gadsden Nostrzold says. "It was one of the things, when we were thinking about getting a bigger boat — [Widdows and I]

didn't want to go any longer than 35 feet, because we wouldn't have lost the ship."

The Noetsholds say they spend just about every weekend of the summer on the lake, they've been on D-Dock for six years, and they're planning to stay.

Other docks in the area are arguably better suited to regular overnights. As far as amenities go, the Southeast only offers electricity and a hookup to

city water. "This isn't a marina per se," Cassella notes. "It's really docking." And you won't find a bona fide houseboat in the Southcoast marina, since those tend to be longer, ocean-going boats; the marinas are boat length the docks can accommodate is 35 feet.

The docks at privately owned marinas, such as Bay Harbor Marina in Colchester and Point Bay Marina in Charlotte, tend to be a little quieter than those at the city-owned BoatHouse, Conolly says. Some have such perks as restaurants and showers.

But that doesn't matter to the die-hards at D-Doek. "It comes down to: We got the view and we got downtown, and you just can't beat that," Casella says.

"And we have Kent," Gudrun Nostmark
interjects.

Plus, Cassella adds, everything you need is already onboard: "I have a full-sized refrigerator, a shower and I can cook. I have a really nice bedroom. It's great. It's the only waterfront property I'll ever be able to afford! Unless I move to a condo!" ☺

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High Water Marks

A high school senior discovers that Lake Champlain is rising — but not for the reasons you'd expect.

BY KEN PICARD

When Brendan Murphy faced the prospect of choosing his individual graduate challenge — a prerequisite for all seniors at Plattsburgh's Champlain Valley Union High School — he suggested perfecting a recipe for herbaceous pulled pork. His father was underwhelmed by the idea. As other CVU students were learning new statistical instruments and volunteering with local nonprofits for their senior projects, Murphy's dad, Larry, urged his son to take on something "a little more ambitious," especially because his college applications were on the line.

The younger Murphy rose to the challenge. A few months after embarking on the project, he presented the findings of his research on Lake Champlain's changing water levels not just to his fellow CVU students, faculty and parents, but also to members of the Vermont Geological Society. Some of them were keenly interested in the young man's work.

Murphy demonstrated what many Vermonters living along the lake have casually observed for years, but no researcher had quantified in four decades: The water levels of Lake Champlain — including its average lows and highs and its mean — are higher than previous measurements would suggest. Since the early 1970s, the lake has been slowly but steadily rising.

His way is jumpy to the conclusion that global warming is no blame, but Murphy suggests that climate change actually plays a modest role at best. He theorizes that a "confidence of factors" both natural and related to human activity, are causing the lake to rise. Those factors range from the retreat of the glacier beginning 15,000 years ago to the proliferation of new roads, parking lots and other impermeable surfaces that speed the flow of rivers and streams.

Murphy's findings, which he detailed in his senior paper, "Lake Champlain Has Risen: An Update of the Mean Water Levels of Lake Champlain," have significant implications for developers, rafters, insurance underwriters and waterfront homeowners. People in the last group have legal title to their property down to the "low water" line. As Murphy explains in the paper, because the jurisdiction of many state and federal



lows is based on the lake's mean water level. "If there is any significant change to the levels of the lake, [then] there is an effect on the ownership of property on the lake shore and an impact on the scope of regulatory programs on lake shore properties."

Jerry Hentzick, assistant professor at the University of Vermont and director of outreach and education for UVM's Lake Champlain Sea Grant, points out that a rising lake is also significant to the Army Corps of Engineers, emergency planners and others who work as flood-control measures on the lake and the Richelieu River to the north.

For more than 50 years, Murphy explains, the legal yardstick for gauging Lake Champlain's average water line has been based on a June 1971 study published by Richard Dawner, a now-retired professor of civil and environmental engineering at the University of Vermont. For that report, Dawner analyzed 63

years' worth of measurements taken on the Burlington waterfront, from 1907 to 1970.

Based on Dawner's calculations — done in part to help clarify a 1967 Vermont Supreme Court ruling on contested waterfront property rights in Chittenden County — Vermont's Water Resource Panel of the Natural Resources Board established the mean water level of Lake Champlain at 95.5 feet above sea level. That legal standard, set in 1972, is still used today.

But, Murphy points out, many in Vermont's hydrological community have long suspected that the 95.5-foot level no longer reflects the lake's true mean. So, at the urging of his father — a Burlington-based real estate attorney who occasionally deals with waterfront property and zoning issues — Murphy set out to replicate Dawner's original study and see whether lake levels had remained constant.

The high school student had several distinct advantages over his UVM predecessor. Dawner and one of his students did all their serious number crunching on an old IBM mainframe computer, laboriously entering the data by hand on punch cards. The calculations alone took hours to process.

By contrast, Murphy had the computational muscle of a 21st-century laptop at his disposal. As a result, his analyses could include not only annual high- and low-water readings but daily readings, all downloaded, recorded and compiled from the U.S. Geological Survey. He could tally nearly 60,000 data points in seconds.

The result? For one thing, Murphy discovered that Dawner underestimated the pre-1971 lake level in his original study by a few tenths of a foot. (The discrepancy can be attributed to Murphy's greater pool of data.) More importantly, he discovered that, since Dawner's 1971



study, the average water level of Lake Champlain has "increased significantly" — by almost a foot.

In the 60 years prior to 1971, the highest water level ever recorded on Lake Champlain was 164.51 feet. Since '71, Murphy found that high-water marks have been surpassed 58 times. The new record high of 169.98 recorded during the spring floods of 2005, is nearly two feet higher than the pre-1971 record high.

"There's obviously something that's going on to drive this," Murphy suggests. "You would not observe shifts that dramatic if something hadn't happened."

So what is the driving force, if not climate change? Murphy readily admits that formulating and proving a hypothesis was well beyond the scope of his paper. However, with help from Homan, a marine-sciences expert, Murphy offered up several possible theories.

In the early '70s, Murphy says, the Canadian government narrowed the Chambly Canal, which lies approximately 30 miles north of the city and bay of Lake Champlain. He suggests this "bariatric" restriction the northerly flow of the river, causing the lake to drain more slowly and thereby causing the lake level.

Dorner himself later proffered an other potential explanation. Murphy didn't contact the retired professor when he began his project because, as he sheepishly admits, "I didn't even know he was still alive."

Dorner, now 75, works for the Federal Emergency Management Agency. He suggests that a cause of the rising lake could be what's known as "isostatic rebound." For thousands of years, Dorner says, the glaciers that covered what's now the Champlain Valley basin were several miles thick and compressed the earth, "much as you'll compress your mattress when you sit on it." Even after the glaciers' retreat, land takes thousands of years to spring back into place.

Because the Champlain Valley's glaciers receded north, the earth rebounded from the south end of the lake first. Hence, Dorner says, "We see still

now underlying small amounts of isostatic rebound at the northern end of the lake." As the northern lake bed rises, he says, so does the water level.

How did Dorner feel about a 19-year-old revisiting the study he conducted 43 years earlier — and pointing out minor statistical discrepancies?

"I'm flattered, in a way," Dorner says. "You could say that that was my job for 34 years [at UVM], to encourage young people to ask questions and do these kinds of calculations."

Dorner admits he has a couple of quibbles with Murphy's conclusions, including his assertion that the lake has risen "significantly."

"As I looked at Dorner's data, I felt he may have gone a little too far in his conclusion," he says. A lot of youthful exuberance? "There might be."

Nevertheless, in April, Murphy was invited to present his findings to the Vermont Geological Society, an honor usually reserved to college students. Afterward, he was approached by several professors who commended him on his work and said they'd like to examine the issue in more detail.

Homan, who attended the presentation, describes Murphy's methods as "sound," and says he performed a "rigorous statistical analysis" that was well-received by the experts in the room. In fact, Homan later suggested that Murphy try to get his work published in a peer-reviewed academic journal.

None of the attendees challenged Murphy's conclusions, though the high schooler says one professor offered yet another theory to account for Lake Champlain's rise: increased aquatic plant life in the lake and river, which slows the water's northerly flow.

Later this month, Murphy will begin college at the University of Wisconsin-Madison, where he'll study economics with a statistical focus. As for perfecting that pulled-pork recipe, Murphy says he'll find plenty of time to work on that, too. He's heard Madison has quite the barbecue smoking scene. ☺

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On Point

History, high prices and old-fashioned community meet at Charlotte's Thompson's Point.

BY KATHRYN FLAGG

Not long after Susan and Ben Fitzpatrick first visited Thompson's Point more than three decades ago, the South Burlington citizens began dreaming about acquiring a lake-side camp of their own in the sleepy, rural Charlotte community. A friend issued a wake-up call: "She said, 'Forget it, because nothing ever goes for sale,'" Susan Fitzpatrick recalls. "If camps do change hands, it's always within the family."

A few months later, she spotted a tiny classified ad in the newspaper: "Camp for sale. Thompson's Point Flat Rock." The couple and their two children, then 7 and 10, jumped at the opportunity. They've been vacationing at Thompson's Point every year since.

It's not hard to understand why. On this point jutting into Lake Champlain, the tapers, trees and cozy seasonal homes create a sense of North Country relaxation. The communal tennis court and clubhouse haven't changed much since the 1920s. Fences offer down dirt roads together kids scramble along the rocky shore, and seniors sit on shady porches while birds bob in the bay under the point.

Just as Fitzpatrick's friend warned, for years it was hard to break into this historic lakefront community that thrives changing. The expense of keeping a camp at Thompson's Point has shot up dramatically in recent years. As elder generations age, families begin having complicated conversations about caring for and passing on camps that have been theirs for decades. Drive the point's dirt roads and you'll note several "for sale" signs.

What hasn't changed, remarkably, is the feel of the place. Or so says Arthur Caruso, a Florida resident who still summers in the cabin his father built on North Shore Road in 1932.

"To many ways, it's exactly the same," says Caruso, who has visited Thompson's Point every summer since he first arrived in 1950 in 1958. It's a place of



The clubhouse at Thompson's Point. Fitzpatrick calls it "a little piece of heaven."



Swimmers and grounds.



David and Ben Fitzpatrick.



South Shore Clubhouse.

"comfortable porches and rocking chairs," writes one fellow visitor, Inland Road, in a personal history in 1996.

"It's very peaceful, and the lake is beautiful," Caruso adds. "It's just a great place."

That "great place" has been drawing vacationers for more than a century. Thompson's Point history buffs aren't sure when the first camps began summering at the point, but the oldest cottages date to the 1880s. By 1895, a small group had formed an association to draw drinking water from the lake. In the years following, the association grew into little more cottages spring up — an Thompson's Point Inn, and so the neighboring communities of Flat Rock to the south and North Shore to the north. (The three communities were historically quite distinct, but today all three are considered part of Thompson's Point.)

The earliest cottages lived simply

by the shore, many in glimmering tents. Larger, seasonal houses followed, along with a hotel in 1899. By 1903, the ferry Thompson's was docking daily at the long pier that was extended from the point. (Today, that pier is a pile of rubble; the hotel, never as grand as its advertisements promised, was donated to a garage by a later proprietor.) In the early 1920s, members of the Thompson's Point Association moved their clubhouse and tennis courts. Wives and children often spent entire summers in Charlotte, while husbands held down city jobs and made occasional visits.

Over the years, the point was host to several notable residents and visitors. Eugene Court Justice David Brewer summered there, starting in 1885. So did Leslie Shaw, then-president Theodore Roosevelt's Secretary of the Treasury. When Roosevelt himself paid the point a visit, residents showed out their cottages with Japanese lanterns and colored

lanterns, lamps, and grooved the present with a midnight procession.

Today, Thompson's Point is a spot for vacationers with decades-long ties there, for relative newcomers who've purchased camps in recent years and for short-term vacationers who rent lake-side cottages for a few days or a week. Many camp owners on the point look to vacation rental-by-owner website to advertise their gateway spots.

The actual land on which these cottages stand has long belonged to the town of Charlotte, not to the people who inhabit there. The town acquired the point and the surrounding land for \$4,200 in 1829 to establish a "poor farm" — a place of last resort for those living on the margins of society and an institution that persisted into the 20th century. Today, in addition to paying taxes on the buildings, camp residents must enter into 20-year lease agreements with the town. (They also pay for the community septic system that residents of the point installed in 1994.)

For a long time, Thompson's Point lease agreements cost a small, annual flat fee. Curtis recalls his father paying the town a mere \$15 a year back in the 1930s.

"Now it costs more to live here for two months than it does for my permanent house in Florida [for the rest of the year]," he says.

By 1994, when current town clerk Mary Mead stepped into the job, Charlotte had at least three different formulas for the lease agreements on the brooks. Some yielded low rates — a few hundred dollars a year, and in some cases, even less.

When the town updated the lease agreements in the '90s, its action sparked a lawsuit from some residents. The disputes were ultimately resolved, and today all Thompson's Point lease payments are calculated by a single formula. The fair-market value of the land is multiplied by the total nonresidential tax rate, which results in rates multiplied by 135 percent.

It's expensive for residents — and a windfall for Charlotte.

"They pay a lot of money into the



town was built in 1892, the "new" addition to 1945. "Ours is still the old 'bricks and shingles,'" says Naylor, missing the house has no insulation.

Upstairs, the dividing walls between the bedrooms stop well short of the high, beamed ceilings. "Some people refer to them as 'abominable partitions,'" jokes Naylor's friend Carolyn Coleburn, who spends her summers down the lane at a camp near the Thompson's Point clubhouse.

Coleburn has been summering at Thompson's Point for eight decades. Her parents first came up from New York with her and her siblings in 1934, when she was just 6 years old. That year, they rented a cottage on Flat Rock, a swanerie community largely inhabited by Methodist ministers. They burned kerosene lamps and cooked over coal stoves.

Coleburn remembers that when Vermont Light and Power came to electrify the road, one of the resident ministers adamantly blocked the way. There would be no electricity on Flat Rock, at least for the time being.

Even now, much of the wiring in Naylor's home is the old knob-and-tube style typical of construction between the 1880s and 1930s. She and her husband have brought in an electrician to convert the system, but it's been expensive, and slow going — with occasional unfortunate results.

Modern electrical cords, she notes, are a lot harder to camouflage than the old-fashioned wires.

Down the road from Naylor's cottage, Coleburn shows off her own home, which her father built and furnished for \$10,000 in the 1930s. She's concerned by how expensive Thompson's Point has become over the years, and says the schoolteachers and middle-class administrators who once made up the fabric of this community are often priced out today.

The good news for newcomers, though, is that when they buy into Thompson's Point, "they're buying into the community," Coleburn says — and that community tends to welcome them with open arms.

"It's like an old small town," Coleburn concludes with a smile, before returning to her acre-and-a-half perch for the afternoon. ☐

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Photo: the clubhouse of campers past



town," says Mead, who last March collected nearly \$600,000 in rent from Thompson's Point residents. That's more than half of Charlotte's total revenue from outdoor spaces. For camp owners, it means paying a hefty fee on land that's only open for residence from mid-April through October.

The town benefits in other ways from the enclave, too. Mead says residents routinely walk the pleasant dirt roads that connect the camps. In the winter, Thompson's Point is a popular spot for cross-country skiing, snowshoeing and ice skating.

Meanwhile, the point's rich history lives on, particularly in the cottages on Thompson's Point proper, 33 appear on the register of Vermont's historical buildings.

Dorothy Naylor, who lives near the end of Thompson's Point, leads the tour through the cottage where she has summered since 1947. The oldest part of the

Summer at the lake for kids at the St. John's Club in Burlington



Room With a View

Burlington's St. John's Club brings the private lakefront club experience to the average Joe **BY ETHAN DE SEIVE**

On the morning of my 48-hour visit to Burlington's venerable St. John's Club, an Adirondack thunderstorm rolls and booms across the lake, threatening to disrupt the club's wanted view of Lake Champlain. But the rising thunderheads and occasional snobs of lightning only add to the beauty of the scene. Few forces on Earth could spoil this view.

Later that day, the region's finicky weather system finally give way to a sunbaked sunset that tints the underbelly of the clouds. Despite a slight chill in the air, about 80 of the St. John's faithful gather on the club's several patios, most of them simply gazing westward as the sun settles into a mountain notch.

On August 17, St. John's Club will celebrate its 50th anniversary at its location on Central Avenue, prior to that, the establishment was anchored to a very particular site, says bar and food manager Stan Pfost. Founded about a century ago, he reckons, St. John's Club used to house around its lakefront

neighborhood, at least once finding temporary digs above a long-ago-shuttered store. "It was just this little club upstairs" in those days, says Pfost, who's also celebrating a milestone anniversary with the club. This is his 20th year behind the bar.

The venue's unassuming brick exterior and wobbly wooden fence conceal from passersby that its backyard boasts spectacular lakefront views. The pleasure of experiencing them is reserved for members, who pay \$50 annually for access to what has become the club's single most valuable asset. The club purchased the land on which the building was constructed in 1866 for the nominal sum of \$1. About five years ago, the last time anyone checked on the current value of the property, the figure cited was in seven million.

Much of that value is borne by St. John's unobstructed lakefront access. From the building's lower-level deck, the grassy land slopes downward. A lawn accommodates a line of deck chairs that beckons to lovers of the sunset. Beyond

that stands a landscaped and stone-walled patio with room for about eight round tables with chairs, a feature added to the grounds after Tropical Storm Irene and subsequent rough weather eroded the property's waterfront border.

Below the patio, a shallow beach extends a couple of hundred feet along the shore—and, in a sense, beyond the shore. The first several hundred feet of water are only one or two feet deep. "It's a wonderful thing for children," says Pfost, 54. "They can play out there, and it's not a big drop-off."

St. John's, though distinguished by its membership policy as a "social club" rather than a bar, has distanced itself from the men-only laborers' drinking halls from which it descends (its founders were Francophone mill workers of the Union St.-Jean Baptiste). It now welcomes females—which explains the kids who gambol on the coastline—and Pfost makes a point of highlighting the club's policy of nondiscrimination.

Time for a petite discrimination: Though I'm not a member, I'm an occasional

off-key contributor to St. John's Club's Friday karaoke nights, the only weekly event where nonmembers are welcomed. Invited there by friends who are members, my wife and I were straddled immediately by the scene's inebriated, semi-sober couples, dancing cheek-to-cheek, shared the floor with retirees, twentysomethings, and cheerleaders and employees of the Vermont Center. No single word described the scene more aptly than "unpretentious."

Indeed, if the club's spectacular view encourages people to become members, the welcoming atmosphere encourages them to renew their annual dues.

Larry Ricker, 70, is a University of Vermont professor emeritus of natural resources. He and his wife, Anne, have been members for "30 or 40" years. Ricker's son, also named Larry, joined a couple of years after his father, and a few years ago held his wedding reception at St. John's. "The people at the club are really diverse—in terms of interests, economic backgrounds, that kind of thing," says Ricker Sr., who

notes that all three forces come to the club weekly. "It's just welcoming to all. It's just wonderful," he adds.

Plouf, one of the club's 10 employees, considers himself a member too. "I love the people and I love the place," he says. "These are my friends — the ones I look forward to seeing."

The membership now numbers about 1,400, including many out-of-staters. That's pretty impressive for a building with just two minute indoor social spaces. The upstairs room has a capacity of 125; the downstairs holds 80. In addition to collecting annual membership fees, St. John's stays financially healthy by selling food and drink and renting out its spaces for private functions. But even when one of its rooms is booked, the club's policy is to reserve the other one for members.

Both rooms afford views of the lake, though the vista from the upper deck is the more appealing. The downstairs, which was renovated about eight years ago after a fire, is due for further improvements, Plouf says. The club's leadership hopes to add a few more large windows, thus highlighting the lake view so beloved by patrons. "The first thing [people] say when they come here is, 'Oh,

my God, that view!'" says Plouf. "That's number one. Without that, who knows what it'd be?"

Susan Huling, an accountant from Charlotte, sits with her partner and two friends on the recently constructed lower patio. Her love for the club, and for what it represents, is passionate. "This is the best

way for the regular guy to have the four-star experience of the lake view," Huling says.

She also echoes Plouf's claim about that view's superiority. "This is the best view in Vermont," Huling declares, then takes it even further. "I grew up in southern California, and everyone who lives in

California thinks that California is the center of everything. We think we have the best sunsets, the best summers, the best surfing," she says. "But this is the best sunset anywhere I've ever seen in the world. Better than anywhere I've seen in Europe, anywhere in southern

California, northern California. The sun over the Adirondacks, from the Vermont side — it's off the charts."

There's no disagreement on the view. But St. John's chunk of the actual lake gets surprisingly little use, Plouf says, barring the occasional Frisbee-kid. Now and then, best-of-wrong members will drop anchor just beyond the shallows and wade in for a burger and a beer, but, as the swimmer sheds his extended reach in recent years, those occurrences are rarer. For this, which can torment the shadows, occasionally pull up onto the club's beach during the summer months.

Mostly, though, the club's piece of lake is for its members to just come down and sit there and enjoy the view," says Plouf.

Members seem to agree with that assessment. Though they speak fervently of the divine reward, the "sunset food" served by the kitchen (including

burgers, chicken fingers, nachos and other humble fare) and the affordable, strong drinks, everyone I talk to on this summer evening mentions the view. For most members, that alone justifies the cost of their annual dues.

Forcier Sr. and Anne used to live in a Burlington waterfront neighborhood, after moving closer to the city center several years ago, they found themselves pining for the lake. "The club gives us a really nice place to be at the lake when we wish to be," says Forcier Sr. "The scenery is spectacular, and I think you can't help but feel more relaxed."

Susan Cohen of Burlington has been a St. John's member only since May, when she decided to sign up after passing the place "a million times" on her kayak. The night I drop by happens to be Cohen's first ever visit to the club, and she's worried two out-of-town friends she came with her there. Staring out at the sunset, Cohen sums up the experience of her first visit with a simple declaration: "This is beautiful!" ☺

Contact: ethan@sevendaysup.com

INFO

St. John's Club 90 Central Avenue, Burlington, 05401-9100. Members only. facebook.com/7SDJCLUB



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Lake Champlain, at about 1,000 square kilometers, is the 13th-largest lake in the U.S., its 25 cubic kilometers of fresh water makes it 10th in volume. In other words, it's a big enough lake to accommodate just about everyone in its shores who might want to swim, kayak, canoe or otherwise engage in aquatic activity. No, really. The computer website, *Wildern Alpha*, tells us that if every single New Yorker — and there are about 22,000 of us — were to jump into Lake Champlain at once, the level of the lake would rise a scant 368 micrometers.

Most of us, though, might prefer to enjoy Lake Champlain's bounding from a floating device, e.g., sailboat, kayak, paddleboard, etc. What to do if you don't own any of the above?

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Pleats of lakefront businesses enable patrons to rent a boat and hire a crew, and a Vermont boating license is surprisingly simple and inexpensive to obtain.

But there are many more ways to get on or into Lake Champlain. In case you need assistance figuring this out, we present them here. *Don't voyage!*

Swimming

The simplest way to commune with Champlain's water. Just don't swim and jump in! Or, if you're hip to the location of local swimming nude beaches, you can save yourself even the cost of a swim trunks or bikini.

Just watch out for sharp-shelled rocks, hungry leeches, rabid sturgeon and elevated levels of dioxin, PCB and phthalate.

Rafting & inner tubing

No one's stopping you from grabbing your favorite inflatable and luring the water inner tubes and rafts are cheap and easy to use. Hysterics may wish to purchase an inner inflatable lanyard.

A so-so inner tube will set you back no more than 30 bucks at an outdoor outfitter store, and is sufficient for a



Water, Water Every

How to get in it when you don't own a boat

BY ETHAN DE SEIFE

confident swimmer. Safe, well-maintained inflatables — durable enough to be towed behind a speedboat but also propelled by kick power — are easy to find. West Marine in South Burlington sells a number of multi-passenger tubes for about \$300.

Snorkeling & SCUBA diving

The place to go for underwater biological fun is Burlington's Waterfront Diving Center, which rents and sells all the flippers, face masks and rebreathers you'll need for snorkeling or SCUBA diving in Lake Champlain. The

shop also offers a wide variety of classes, from an introductory snorkeling clinic to a master SCUBA diver course, and even charter boats that rent such dive sites as the Underwater Historic Ruins. (Incidentally, that phrase, which includes the wacky words of many a novel, is so the public trust while anyone can visit it, registration is required.)

Standup paddleboarding & surfing

Standup paddleboarding (or SUP) is sort of like surfing, sort of like kayaking and sort of like a core workout. As Muchnick, "Chief Weber" at

Burlington's WND&WB, calls it "the fastest-growing water sport in the world."

What accounts for the sport's popularity? It's very accessible, and, really, anybody of any age and any fitness level can find success right off the bat. Muchnick says "You don't need a huge amount of practice or lessons in order to have fun doing it."

Besides offering courses and giving free SUP demos twice a week, WND&WB on Pine Street sells and rents SUP gear. The boards cost anywhere from about \$600 to \$2,000, paddles, shoes and other gear are extra. The vintage boards — made of fiberglass and foam or durable, inflatable rubber — may be used in simple



where

fishing boats, some can even be outfitted with a nonskid sole that turns them into windwarding boards. If your need is speed, the sleeker, carbon-fiber boards can slice quickly through the water.

If you want to give SUP a try before committing to the purchase of a board, PaddleLain's Champlain offers an "every-one-welcome weekly group paddleboard tour" that departs from Burlington's Otislee Park. The company's SUP lessons cost \$30 per hour; board rentals are \$15 per hour and \$35 for the whole day.

As for SUP paddle-less recreation, surfing, Lake Champlain doesn't have anything on Waimea Bay or even Keweenaw Beach. Surfers won't find the huge,

surgingly waves they need to hang 10 (Then again, no shark!) Still, says Middlebrook, surfing is occasionally possible on Lake Champlain "if the wind is going in the right direction." Check Otislee Park; if conditions are right, you might get a chance to play Big Kahuna.

Windsurfing & kiteboarding

Middlebury may be landlocked, but that hasn't prevented the town's Northshore Kite & Sail from offering a wide range of classes in SUP, windsurfing and their partially airborne cousin, kiteboarding. When weather conditions prohibit lake excursions, the shop's instructors teach kiteboarding courses in the middle of a field, the better for landlubbers to get the hang of it. Introductory lessons start at \$68 per hour; advanced classes (for the lake) cost up to \$150 for up to three hours.

Waterskiing, wakeboarding & tubing

Get a buzz with a boat! Then you can have fast-paced aquatic fun simply by hitching a ride. If you're looking for a wave-simulating run, there are three basic recreational categories: inflatable, ski and board. We've already addressed the first.

For water ski and wakeboard, West Marine is, again, a variable option. A good pair of water skis will set you back only about \$150, add a life vest and a tow rope, and you're good to go. The less-limber wakeboards are to water skis what snowboards are to alpine ski, with wider bases that offer greater stability. At West Marine, several models sell for around \$150, but you can pay up to \$300 for higher-end models.

Jet Skis

Jet Skis are the motorcycles of the water: fast, loud and slow only. They're fast, but just because the surface of the water is softer than highway blacktop doesn't mean you shouldn't play it safe, kids. Be sure to wear a life jacket and familiarize yourself with your Jet Ski's safety features. And all Jet Skis must be registered in their owner's home state.

The prices on these babies run into four and five figures, beginners are better off renting. Check out Sail Lake

Champlain in Lake La Motte, where, depending on the vehicle's size, \$75 or \$90 will get you an hour of Jet Ski time.

Kayaking, canoeing & dragon boating

If you're someone who sculls at such disciplines as wakeboards or kiteboards, then perhaps it's time to rest itself a boat. The two simplest kinds — canoes and kayaks — are in ample supply in Vermont, and renting or even buying one is fairly affordable.

Unisk Outdoor Outfitters, with locations in Stowe and South Burlington, bills itself as "Vermont's leading paddle sports shop." Kayak rentals, which Unisk offers at Waterbury Reservoir and Burlington's North Beach, range from \$20 for two hours to \$50 for six, canoe rentals also top out at \$50.

The store also sells boats of both varieties. Entry-level models run at little as a few hundred dollars, but catch watercrafts can cost upward of \$3,000.

If you'd prefer to go boating with two dozen friends, consider Vermont's dragon boat scene. These long-paddled boats, known for their use in annual charity races in Burlington, seat up to 35 people. Costs range up that many, plus the Burlington's Inland Rowing and Racing Club, operating from the Lake Champlain Community Sailing Center, can place you on a team of like-minded paddlers. The \$150 annual membership fee covers two weekly practices and two races; prospective members' first two practices are free.

Boats

If you're thinking about renting a boat for a sunny summer afternoon's enjoyment, you have a number of choices. The first is motorboat or sailboat?

If you were born after 1994 and wish to pilot a motorized aquatic vessel in the state of Vermont, you need a boating license. (Either that or you need to hire a captain, crew or both.) To get a license, you must pass the online Vermont Boater Safety Course. (booked online/Vermont) Once that's done, the license is yours for \$30.

Marine Plus of North Ferrisburgh has six powerboats for rent, ranging from a 16-footer with a 90-horsepower engine to a 260-horsepower, 22-foot craft. Daily rates range from \$165 to \$350, fuel and lunch fees are extra. In South Tior,

Apple Island Resort Marina rents out motorboats for \$150 to \$275 per day.

Piloting a sailboat requires some training. If this is your goal, take sailing courses or two at Colchester's International Sailing School, located in Mallards Bay. The ISS offers courses for beginners and pros, kids and adults, on catamarans and on racing/yachtboats prices vary.

You'll want to test your new sailing skills by renting a sailboat, which you can do at various locations around the lake. Burlington's Lake Champlain Community Sailing Center, which also offers a host of sailing classes, charges \$55 for an hour's rental, and offers season passes ranging in price from \$200 for a student to \$725 for a family.

The same organization's Women in Wind program uses sailing to build confidence and leadership skills in Vermont girls and women. The program's team-building activities — in sailing and SUP — are designed to foster self-confidence.

The Community Sailing Center also offers an adaptive sailing program. In a partnership with Vermont Adaptive Ski and Sports, CSC's program has been helping people with disabilities get on the lake since 1997. Its offerings include group and private sailing lessons, as well as sailboats, canoe and kayak rentals. The Vermont Disabled Athletic Association offers similar programs, as well as an annual regatta, from its home base in Mallards Bay.

If you're content just to let someone else drive, you might consider calling up Burlington's Whaling Man, Schooner Company. In addition to offering three-day cruises during the summer sailing season, Captain Mike Crowley has on his boat, the 43-foot-long *Whaling Ship*, for private functions of up to 17 passengers. Rates range from \$270 for six to eight people, two-hour cruises on a weekday to \$1,020 for a 12-passenger, eight-hour cruise on a weekend, 49604.

Last but not least, we have ferries. Arguably the most positive way to "on the lake," the ferries that shuttle between Wernicke and New York — departing from Grand Isle, Burlington and Charlotte — are functional and unglamorous. But they offer some of the best views around. What's more, some of them run through the winter. Your trusty SUP or Jet Ski won't help you enjoy the lake in December — unless you're looking for chubbier bargeier sights. ☺



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Loves Me, Loves Me Not

Theater review: *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, Vermont Shakespeare Company

BY ALEX BROWN

From the young Athenian lovers who pair and re-pair under magic and influences to the overblown mythical lovers Pyramus and Thisbe depicted in a badly acted play within the play, *A Midsummer Night's Dream* contains seven couples and, magically, time enough to taste them all. Shakespeare's unerring logic furwheels us over the nature of love by pushing, nudging and exaggerating it, using language to concoct subtle truths and humor to take away the sting.

Theseus and Hippolyta come from ancient myth. The four lovers, Demetrius, Lysander, Helena and Hermia, are timeless members of the upper class, animated by passions so

universal that they embody our entire species. The forest fauns and their king and queen, Oberon and Titania, exist in a magical sphere. And the "mechanicals" are lower class tradesmen, only to a fault. That Shakespeare can make all these worlds permeable gives the play the gassy, perfect pleasure of dreams vaguely remembered.

The plot is a surreal story of love stories, and Vermont Shakespeare Company's production presents some dazzling moments that reveal the nature of love while delivering physical comedy to underscore the text's wildly witty language. Jean Neeson directs the show with an eye for movement, building scenes created actors who are

always in physical tension, coiled and released for comic effect.

The plot begins with a triangle: Demetrius and Lysander both love Hermia. Hermia only has eyes for Lysander, but her father forces a marriage with Demetrius. Hermia is the odd woman out, pressing in vain for Demetrius. Neeson directs to reveal the teenage quality of love here, giving Demetrius a chance to roll his eyes in frustration that Helena just doesn't get it, and having Lysander start with bad-boy swagger to fascinate Hermia and infuriate her father. When faded, the lovers baffle in misery, as only adolescents can.

Once magical adjustments take over, the triangle flips with geometric precision. Oberon commissions his servant Puck to administer a potion that causes a sleeper to adore the first creature seen upon waking. Accidents ensue, and Demetrius and Lysander both awaken disturbed by Helena. Now, Neeson sets the men to over-acting, wringing every howlful particle out of their pledges to the highly suspicious Helena. The director firmly underscores the hyperbolic sentences with physical action, as Lysander wrestles a reedily clinging Helena away and both men attempt absurd stunts to impress Helena.

The resulting escalation of emotion plays out as Helena and Hermia battle with ironic gusto over the slight slights they've suffered. Puck and Oberon ultimately re-engage the four lovers to set things right, and, when they all wake again, Neeson makes their night in the forest a true journey. With new, subtle nuance, Demetrius realizes he loves Helena. Lysander regrets his attempt to elope but feels his love for Hermia deepen. The clarity they achieve is the result of dreams they can barely remember; but they have grown into adults.

Meanwhile, Titania and Oberon are feeding over a trifle, but magical creatures take it hard. Titania has banished Oberon from her bower, and he humiliates her, bewitching her, too, to show the first creature she sees and smugly hoping she will "wake when something vile is near."

Puck sees in that, transforming a mouse's head into that of an ass. He picks Bottom for this stunt after he observes the mechanicals getting up a play for Theseus' nuptials. Neeson demonstrates the low wit of the

mechanicals' inexpressive by having all six cluster together to stifle onstage as a unit, as if incapable of individual rebellion. It's not the most winning metaphor, so it cripples the squad of harpists with excessive insensibility. Far as they begin planning their play, Shakespeare's barometer insights into an actor's temperament blossom into hilarity.

John Nagle helter-skelter conveys Bottom's craving for the stage. He wants to play all the parts and direct, too, falling over himself with enthusiasm. And when he's given a chance to create, Nagle's Bottom takes everything he's seen in actor do and imitates it to himself, capping it by giving Bottom an afflicted "artistic" gesture in the form of a upturned head.

Coan Ledwith is a perfect Helena, moving from an impulsive romantic securely aware of her own charms to a quiet fire prepared to resort to tantrums and physical violence for the sake of love. Kit Rivers brings a modern mockery to Helena's catalog of woes, and is especially potent at administering long looks.

With further movement and multiple facial expressions, Don Linnard finds comic riches in Demetrius, conveying the righteous ruminations and

boiling point frustration of a lover. As Lysander, Christopher Byssar is a slightly sleepy man of action, up for any thing but showing the goggle eyes that signify this wild man needs to crash.

Nick Pincus brings a gymnast's physical daring and a skilled actor's character insights to the role of Puck. His smart, novel touches include show-

ing, aside, with "And rise through fire I will for thy sweet sake" in hilarity. The quality of puppetry makes love an eternal force, hardly veiled or understood.

The production's one significant flaw is costume design that presents too many competing ideas. Theseus and Hippolyta commence the play looking like a 1930s gangster and his gun moll. Then we

whip forward to the late 1990s for the lovers' scene, while the mechanicals get contemporary workmen's garb and the fairies fit about in simple white gowns accented with flowers. These conflicting styles don't underline the play's different worlds but instead present an assembled badpedge.

A Midsummer Night's Dream is perhaps a perfect play, a comic exploration of all facets of love, from amoris us urges to true love, with a cold, marital detour to jealousy and even between Theseus and Hippolyta, the marriage of a captive

bride recorded to her captor. Any look at love is also an examination of how we talk about love, and Shakespeare creates several nesting frames around the subject. By the end, the audience is watching the court of Athens become an audience for the mechanicals' "to discuss brief scenes" of the lovers Pyramus and Thisbe.

Knowing that audience, especially on a summer night with the world at its full out, transports the viewer in a dream that makes love eternally new. **D**

Contact: alex@newmexicoyent.com

INFO

A Midsummer Night's Dream by William Shakespeare, directorship James Morrison produced by Vermont Shakespeare Company. Wednesday and Thursday August 13 and 14, 6-9 p.m., on the Circus Lawn in Sta-Barbara Museum, open seating. Bring a lawn chair or blanket. Additional performances: Saturday August 16, 1:30 p.m., and Sunday August 17, 2 p.m., at Royal Tyler Theatre University of Vermont in Burlington. \$15-25, kids under 12 free at Sta-Barbara Museum and \$16 at UVM. Call 877-676-7811. vtschakespeare.org.

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Dock-to-Table

Slip into an elegant meal — or a pirate's bay — in Essex, N.Y.

BY HANNAH PALMER SMITH

The hostess rushes on She leans on the bar and beckons to the bartender, a skull and crossbones on the back of her T-shirt. "There's gonna be 20 people on a boat here in five minutes," she says. <http://www.fox.com/news/04/07>

The bartender regards her with a look that says, "Seriously?" but he nods and continues shuffling glasses into shelves behind the bar.

A waitress offers and begins counting money at the end of the bar. "There's a 20-top coming in on a boat," the bar tender tells her.

"You're kidding."

It's close to 9 p.m. on a recent Wednesday at the Old Dock House Restaurant and Marina in Tonawanda, N.Y. If it shows, the large party will be the high light of the evening, but everyone seems to think the call was a prank.

Just in case, the hostess rushes off to set up places for 20 on a long table outdoors alongside the dock. Hank Williams continues his sad serenade on the sound system.

Minutes later, a boat approaches, green lights bobbing fore and aft in the breezy, late-summer night. The engine purrs and stops. The hostess walks through the open-air bar and adjacent patio to meet it at the dock. She returns with two men in tow and leads them to a table. "It's just two people," she says with a shrug.

So goes a night at this lakeside eatery, one of Charaplan's oldest. Built in 1850 and just steps from the ferry landing, the Old Dock House has served various menus and had numerous owners over the years. Currently owned by Steve McKenna, it serves pub-style lunch and dinner seven days a week through the summer months.

Years ago, the shores of Essex enjoyed more action. Tales still circulate about government spies and scandals during the War of 1812, and about smuggling, trafficking and heavy boozing during



Prohibition. But today, the Old Dock House feels more like the kind of place where modern-day boaters pop in to recast their voyages and grab a burger and beer.

The entire village of Enoch — comprising a cluster of houses, a modest library, two churches, and a small listing of seasonal shops and galleries — is on the National Register of Historic Places. Its legends are frayed and worn, most of its history buried deep in the past. Today, the town's population hovers just shy of 700 full-time residents, according to town clerk Bill Margie.

On its portside approach, the Old Dock House — which was nearly washed away by flooding in 2011 — offers a low-key, informal welcome. A steno's throw south, Leeds and Kay Trivette welcome guests to their *Leeds & Kay at the Beach*.



Shipyards in similar fashion. Grab drinks and maybe a snack at either of these, but save room for dinner down the street. A short walk from the dock, the Essex Inn, situated in curvy yellow clapboard behind 10 stately colonnades, rewards diners much as it has for more than 200 years.



and Cheo Lan & Ruy) for visitors arriving by private vessel. Castro says they hope to bring an upstart, cosmopolitan vibe to the historic beach.

Service staff doesn't dress simply in black with sexy leather aprons. They speak with the easy fluency of food professionals. As we wait, a waitress chats with diners at a neighboring table. "When I go out, I try to order things I can't get at home," she tells them.

Most of the menu consists of dishes that few would bother to fix in their own kitchen. Castro is an analyzer and a conscious chef. This is a collaboration spread. Dishes are wild game, imported meats, native, heritage pork smothered in onions, crusty breads and glazes and drawn to the bare essence of ingredients. Castro's menu is simple, but the entrees are reasonably priced in the \$30-to-\$50 range. The chef counts many Vermonters as

The menu is stocked with local ingredients, and that includes the cocktail, a "New Fisherman" — a crusty twist on the classic shrimp cocktail — made

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Let $\mathbf{B} = \mathbf{B}(t)$ denote the matrix

CM Book Agents: Best and Most

SIDEdishes

BY HANNAH PALMER SOHN & ALICE LEVITT



Twice as Nice

TWO CASUAL EATERIES OPEN IN BURLINGTON. Burlington looking for new daytime dining options can double their pleasure this week. THE LITTLE RED KITCHEN opened on Monday, while the western restaurant, a **SAVORY** debuted on Tuesday.

Located in the old Sugar Shop building at 805 Riverside Avenue, the Little Red Kitchen (open on weekdays, 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.) welcomed a steady stream of Monday commuters picking up grab-and-go sandwiches and salads. A salad of roasted beets and goat cheese over spinach with pomegranate

was an apparent hit. Meanwhile, owner co-owner, **AMANO** was practicing her brother's **AMANO**'s invention of spaghetti served on a crusty, buttered bun. "After you try it, you can say, 'Take me home, Lord I have bread!'" **AMANO** told customers.

While her sandwich bread comes from **AMANO**'s sister in **WILKES** by default, gluten-free loaves also have the **AMANO**. **AMANO** serves casseroles, meat, oil specialties such as caramelized-apple cakes and lemon poppyseed cake. **AMANO**'s **AMANO** (31 Center Street, open until 3:30 p.m. except Monday), the former **Woods Golf Shop** has been transformed into a cowboy

haven, complete with wagon wheels, cacti and a mural of the wide western sky. The food reflects the feel, with intense cowboy coffee and chunky beef shoulder chili. But there's more to the bill of fare, says **AMANO** **AMANO**, who opened the café with friends **Woods** **AMANO**.

The business takes its name from a German family recipe for a powdered pastry. **AMANO** made with his mother for special occasions — and now serves to his customers. "It's sort of a cross between a croissant and a Danish and a flaky pastry," he explains. "We want them to be almost like the best croissant."

AMANO uses the same dough for his waffles — sandwiches pressed in a waffle iron. Fillings

include combinations such as prosciutto, Gouda and honey mustard. He darts the pressed treats with powdered sugar and salt before serving. "It's meant to be finger-licking good and you're gonna have more!" says **AMANO**.

Another novel menu item is the **AMANO**'s stuffed popovers, crammed with breakfast-sandwich fillings or seasonal fruit compote. Other morning sandwiches are served on house focaccia. The same meat and veggie options are also available as entrees for savory outdoor. **AMANO** says he particularly likes the creamy partridge with a dose of cheddar.

Though he and **AMANO** emphasize the ease of taking, the café has no tables available, and the possibility of more. In the coming months, the pair will need them when western dining nights become part of their offerings.

— A L



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food

Dock-To-Table BY JEFF

lefty pair of Widow Jane beer (dis-
tilled in Brooklyn with water from the
Hudson Valley) and blood-orange litters.

While whiskey and roasted meat
may seem to say "romantic," Castro's food
is not without whimsy. A first course of
pho and waffles is a playful take
on the fried-chicken classic. The rusty
bird, country-fried to a deli-
cious crisp, takes its though-
tful at gorged on scarus weeks
before its death. Perched
stay as my Belgian waffles
in creamy maple gravy, the
dish reveals Montreal's
influence: "I love chicken
and waffles," she says as she
brings the plate to the table.
"So I begged [the kitchen]
to do this."

If the cooking is both
sophisticated and fun, the
restaurant's interior is a class-
ic Adirondack. Wooden
walls separate hand-hewn,
exposed beams and wide-plank floor-
boards cut from ancient North Country
hardwoods. It's old-fashioned but cozy,
not stuffy. It's also the kind of place
where an entire still comes with a salad
viper fresh, grown from Rochester's
Piedmont Crows Vegetable, tossed in a
bright vinaigrette.

When the entire comes, it's a hearty,
thoughtful dish that suddenly costs a
slight, hungry spell over the table. It
might be tender molasses of Maple
duck breast, cooked a perfect, bloody
rose, or that thick pork chop, seared
dark brown and topped with glazed
apple on a bed of braised white beans
and greens.

Castro says he and Montreal re-
write the menu weekly, keeping a few
standards such as pan-seared chicken
and filet mignon for low-adventurous
eaters. They view their inn as a lab.
"We're a test kitchen," the chef says.
"We're constantly changing things and
trying new recipes, and we cook the way
we like to eat."

Before taking over the Essex Inn,
Castro says, he worked as a production
chef, preparing packaged dinners for
fellow with special needs. "We did a lot
of sous-vide cooking," he notes. Before
that, he belated the kitchen at Café
Mooney Bay on the Mooney Bay Marina
in Plattsburgh.

In his own space, Castro seems ready
to embrace his creative side, and to make
the most of local agriculture — an as-
sessment that, according to local business
Sherry LaForest, is starting to blossom.

"We are getting a few younger people,"
the 70-year-old Essex native tells *Seven
Days* via phone. "They're coming here
for farming." Near Flying Crow, a
modest farm community has started
to take root on Main Chasen Road in
Rensselaire. Essex Farm, founded in
2004 and offering a large CSA, is the
subject of former Kristin Kinsella's arti-
cledly acclaimed 2010 book,
*The Dirty Life: A Memoir of
Farming, Food, and Love*.

When LaForest was a
girl, she says, the Essex Inn
was "all dirty, old, dusty
rooms that hadn't been
used in years." A friend
lived "in one end of the
building," she recalls, and
the kids would wonder the
vacant rooms. "It was fun to
see our imaginations about
the people who had been
there before."

Those people slightly
include spies. According to
Marvin Glaser, another local history buff,
the Essex Inn was a hotbed of espionage
in the War of 1812. "Spies and military
people across the Essex ferry would
beag out at the inn trying to find out-
ing," Glaser says. At that time, Essex's
ruffianist Delavan Balance owned the
inn and regularly housed troops there.
"It's nothing super exciting or specific,"
Glaser says, "except that they were here."

Two hundred years later and just
down the street, two men linger over a
leisurely meal at the Old Dock House.
Inside the bar, we join them, sitting
amid rustic flags, the Red Sox on TV
and kitchen signs that declare, "Low
carb items are locked down upon at this
establishment." Awaiting the 9:30 ferry,
we chat with the friendly barkeep about
the bar, made from former feedboards,
and drink cold Switchbacks.

As we wander away from the sleepy
old town and onto the dock, Jimmy
Butler's voice calls across the water,
crooning a slow Garth Brooks duet.
"Once in a while you get shaven the light
/ In the strangest of places if you look at
it right." And the boat pulls up to take
us home. ☺

Contact kenneth@sevenmystic.com

INFO

Essex Inn on the Adirondack Coast, 2200
Main Street, Essex, N.Y. 845-683-4430
www.essexinn.com

The Old Dock House Restaurant and Pizzeria
2754 Essex Chatham Ferry Road, N.Y. 548-
885-4232, olddockhouse.com

SIDEdishes

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 41

For the Birds

FROM TO FOLD TRUCK RESULTS THIS WEEKEND

On Friday, **WOODCHUCK EATERY'S** **FROM TO FOLD TRUCK** will take its maiden voyage to four quarters across the state. That debut will be followed by weekend dates at **WATERLOO BLUE COUNTRY** (Saturday, August 16) and **SHILLINGHAM VILLAGE** (Sunday, August 17), with additional dates to be announced.

Permanie's market regulars may recognize Thompson, who's been serving food from a tent at local markets for several years. She grew up raising food at **CAVERLIN'S GARDEN OF VEGETABLES** and frequently helps her parents sell their birds.

Thompson's menu features quail kebabs, grilled quail on a stick, deviled quail eggs, honey-wrapped quail legs and pheasant terrin, all sourced fresh from the family farm.

Pollo looking for a more down-to-earth option at **From to Fold** can snack on simple dishes such as burgers and boneless chicken wings. (Yes, **HAPPY HOUR** is on) with blue cheese dressing (with cheese from **AMERICAN FARM**). "I love gourmet food," Thompson says, "but I love comfort food, too." The most important thing is where the food is coming from—and (with the truck) that a family farm with a social and environmental mission.

Thompson views the project as part of a larger mission to

engage the community. "I'm trying to make a living," she says. "But the real reason behind this is to do something that matters."

One percent of proceeds will go to the **WOODCHUCK EATERY'S** **FROM TO FOLD TRUCK** program, Thompson says, which picks up excess produce from farms and distributes it to food pantries. She hopes to use the truck to help incubate other food startups. "I want the truck out there every day," she explains. "But I can't be out there every day and there are so many chefs and farmers looking to start new businesses. I'd love to find away to assist it out."

Thompson says she's enjoyed a lot of support putting the project in action, and now she's looking to pay it forward. On Tuesday, August 18, Thompson will hold a **look-alike** bash with live music, brews from her friends at **Four Quarters** and additional food vendors, including **MATT JAGGER'S FARMHOUSE** **WATERLOO** truck. Thompson says she'll announce the location and lineup on social media once they're finalized. Right now she's focused on getting the truck on the road. "We never been cooked in before," she says. "It's beautiful. It's kind of a miracle that it all worked out. I'm kind of pinching myself."

—H.P.E.

Woodchuck Eatery's new office in Middlebury



PHOTO BY JESSICA WILSON FOR SEVENDAYSVT.COM



PHOTO BY JESSICA WILSON FOR SEVENDAYSVT.COM



Seating area at Woodchuck Eatery

Cider House Rock

WOODCHUCK HARD CIDER CULMINATES FROM HOME
Last Thursday, August 7,

WOODCHUCK HARD CIDER opened its new cidery at 1321 Exchange Street in Middlebury, among a growing array of food businesses. The 100,000-square-foot facility doubled the company's production capacity from about five million cases per annum to nearly 16 million. Visitors can observe production in action from an overhead tour corridor, and the new building houses a retail shop and a tasting bar with 20 drought-free

According to Woodchuck communications manager **AMIE PERMARINK**, these drought-free will allow visitors to test new and experimental ciders not available in stores. "There's a lot of stuff you can only get on tap here," he says. While the old facility was really just a manufacturing hub, Permarink goes on, "This new cidery house really allows people to interact with the company."

If engagement is the goal, it's already working. Last

weekend saw a stream of visitors, and on Saturday, August 23, Woodchuck will host a sold-out party with food, and live music from Philadelphia rockers **The Dog**. "We were expecting 2,000, maybe 3,000 people to reserve tickets," Permarink says. "Once we hit 50,000, we decided to close it off... But I think the ride stations may still have a few tickets they're giving away."

—H.P.E.

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Nouvelle Island Cuisine

Discovering lesser-known eats on the Champlain Islands

BY ALICE LEVITT

As most Vermonters outside the Champlain Islands what they eat when they visit the area, and they'll tell you it's a watershed. Sure, they may recall, with the rusty glaze of a vacationer, a particularly fine meal at the North Hero House Inn & Restaurant or Blue Puddle Bistro. But these same informants might be hard-pressed to offer any other island dining recommendations.

Are the islands really a food desert? Online searches turned up a few nifty wine destinations, but I decided to discover the culinary landscape for myself. I thought of my journey as a parallel to Samuel de Champlain's: I would explore the shores of the lake named for him, learning all I could from the natives.

Using the Thomas Mott MacDonald Bed & Breakfast in Albany as a home base (and source of a gurgling breakfast of punch-stuffed French toast and homemade yogurt), I spent 32 hours wandering my way up Route 2 and back, discovering both new and lesser-known dining destinations, farms, producers—and one place to pick up a fresh smoothie while filling your prescription.

I excluded from my survey some obvious choices: the well-stocked convenience stores that serve campers, as well as most of the island's long-established seasonal snack bars, but I was already written up in our annual snack-bar survey.

Those who seek a touristy meal featuring 550 plates of frozen fish can still find it on the Champlain Islands. But for a

tour of some of their best culinary offerings, keep reading.

Broken Arrow

82 South St., South
Vermont 557-8302

"We've stayed around here. I've been in Vermont."

On August 1, Hill returned to his native South Hero to find locals, including himself and several generations of his family, the kind of food he believes we all deserve to eat. At his new food truck, Broken Arrow, beef in burgers is ground and comes from just a few miles up the road at Grand Isle's Caramak Farms. Most veggies (including greens and heirloom tomatoes, come from Pierrefla's Farm, also of Grand Isle).

Broken Arrow is the reincarnation of Hill's Bell Store Café, which he closed at South Hero's Alchemie Farm two years ago. It's now being replaced by a stand called the Accidental Farmer. Many menu items will ring bells for Bell Store diners, including Hill's favorite items. Recent travels with his wife (and cafe



Greg & Yvonne Hill of Broken Arrow

assistant), artist Yvonne Hill, have enhanced the chef's skills with Central American fare. The pair of overstuffed, hand-machined pork ribs apart in piggy wiggles, combined with tender sausage and crumbly cabbage slaw. Dusted with corn-soaked Costa Rican Salsa Lizano, the dish is transporting.

That's Hill's intention. "Every time I cross this bridge, I'm in the Caribbean," he says of driving to his beloved northern island. Anyone who orders right at Broken Arrow will feel the same way.

Capsand Creamery

Associate at the nearby South Hero Farmers Market and South Hero Vineyard looking west. Special orders through capsandcreamery@gmail.com

Christine McMillan realizes that her life has taken an ironic turn. Having left her job as a diabetes researcher and moved to Vermont with her husband to raise her young children, she's making candy



Then, dumplings at Jack's Cafe at the Gallery

for a living. She began selling sweets at Capsand Creamery late last year.

McMillan raises Nigerian Dwarf goats and has crafted cheese from their milk for her family for several years. Unwilling to make the necessary investment to become certified for commercial cheese manufacturing, she instead began turning the milk into ultra-creamy caramels, chocolates and fudge.

The goats prance and wag their tails as McMillan enters the barn to greet them. Perhaps their happiness helps make the fudge and salted caramels so rich. More likely, those qualities come from their milk's exceptionally high butterfat content, which exceeds that of other goat breeds, says McMillan.

The grain-fed critters aren't just

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milk producers and affectionate pets. McMillan's farm, currently home to 25 goats, is the primary place on the islands to buy the tiny Nigittes. If you see a smudgy Capra near Lake Champlain — especially one with ice-blue eyes, a trade mark of many Capraids kids — chances are it was reared on McMillan's farm.

Remedies Whole Health Pharmacy

303 Route 7, South Hero 370-6442
remediesvt.com

A hundred years ago, the presence of a soda fountain at most pharmacies wasn't anomalous. Pharmacist Michelle Godwin assays the days when soft drinks were believed to have curative properties. But she realizes that Coke and 7-Up — the former once made with coca alkaloid, the latter with bilberry nitrate — no longer qualify as health food.

Instead of serving tea and lemon, Godwin spruced her small pharmacy last month with a juice bar made, like inspiration, she says, was an integrative nutrition course that reminded her of the prophylactic signs customers can take to stay healthy. The pharmacist chose a spot with room for a yoga studio upstairs, and plans to add nutrition classes and scheduled visits to her store's offerings. She also aims to serve salads and soups at the juice bar in a healthy, quick-service apothecary.

But for now, juice and smoothies are the drag — along with coffee, drinks made from Speeder & Kaffee and Vermont Coffee Company roasts. The coffee and smoothies combine in Michelle's blend, the pharmacist's own favorite, which blends espresso with cocoa powder, peanut butter, banana and almond milk. A harried athlete looking for a liquid break from caffeine fare will find it here.



Smoked and pulled pork at Papa Pete's



Papa Pete's Snack Bar

30 Bridge Road, North Hero

A pig goggles its eyes at guests as they approach this snack bar, at the end of Bridge Road between Albion and North Hero. The owner's round belly is tucked out flush. The real pork lies within, smoking low and slow, while the farm pig's creator slings pork burgers, chops fried and tends the garden out back.

Pete McDonald also built the big white rectangle known as Papa Pete's Snack Bar, before opening in 2007. But don't call him a restaurant man. "I'm just a Vermonter with too much time on his hands," he says, taking a long drag on his cigarette.

McDonald's relaxed attitude doesn't extend to his food. The only thing on the menu that's ever frozen is fish. The burgers may not come from Vermont like Brooklyn Buns, but most of the veggies are grown out back or sourced from island farms. The cheese curls on the pizzas come from Canada, for the upper north end of the border speak.

McDonald smiles and serves ribs on Fridays and Saturdays, but pulled pork is always available. The secret ribs feature the crisp bark of the exterior, while a

whiff of smoke penetrates into the meat's meat layers. Paired with hand-cut sweet potato fries, the \$6.25 pulled-pork sandwich makes an addictive meal. But save room for a cornucopia, a refreshing accompaniment to a dip in the lake just feet away.

Zach's Café at the Gallery

Grand Isle Art Works, 255 Route 2, Greenfield 370-6441 greenfieldartworks.com

"I left Burlington. I could have worked at Farmhouse [Tap & Grill], but..." Zach Labelle trails off. He's too polite to put into words that he's happier doing his own thing. The restaurant where he has cooked for three years even bears his name. "We know pretty early on we wanted him to stick around," explains co-owner Jon Holmichuk.

Zach's is just one room in the expansive gallery and store that is Grand Isle Art Works. During the day, shoppers examine arts and crafts from more than 75 Vermont artisans, while Labelle whips up soups, and waffles and breakfast from local ingredients.

By night, when the café is normally closed, Theme Night Thursday diners allow him to flex his culinary muscles. Once a week year-round, Labelle

prepares a three-course, prix-fixe meal for \$35. Themes have included exotic Middle Eastern and Korean menus and honey Southern barbecue.

On a recent Chinese night, Labelle began the meal with four specs, except usually juicy pork and shrimp dumplings tucked into a salad of honeykale. Then, angus and shiitake mushrooms broiled in Shaoxing rice wine.

Both Labelle and Holmichuk are chatty, and the latter says his young chef has amassed a pack of blue-haired gooses with his enthusiastic handshakes and painstaking explanations of each preparation as he serves it.

Of course, the quality of the food doesn't hurt. A massive cut of Crescent Bay Farm pork shoulder falls apart in its house of aspic and cinnamon with preserved black beans and oyster mushrooms. Dessert is a refreshing collection of artistically arranged fruits. Florida mango, star fruit and dragon fruit, all lightly dressed in aspic syrup. It's an appropriate end to dinner in a gallery.

Labelle allows guests to enjoy creativity on a platter as well as on the table, with a list of that fancy island old game. Expect no microtuned, lower fare. This is a terrific Champlain Islands cuisine.

Contact: zach@greenfieldart.com

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A ctor, composer, record producer, singer — Lyle Lovett is all of these and then some. But the Texas-born performer is best known as one of the foremost singer-songwriters of his generation. With four Grammy Awards, 13 albums and a decade-long career to his name, the crooner has staying power. Known for incorporating folk, swing, blues, jazz and gospel into country, Lovett pushes the limits of the genre's traditional arrangements. Backed by 14 all-star musicians — aka his Large Band — he performs selections from *Release Me*, featuring originals and covers of his favorite songwriters.

LYLE LOVETT

Friday, August 15, 7:30 p.m., at Boulder Amphitheater, Jay Peak Resort, 940-75. www.lylelovett.com

SEE LISTING PAGE 10



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spirits alongside cooking demos by area chefs and restaurateurs. And what would a postcard party be without live entertainment? A wide range of musical talents takes the stage at this family-friendly fest — from Michelle Chomare (pictured) to Josh Kato Jr.

CELEBRATE VERMONT FESTIVAL

Friday, August 15 and Saturday, August 16, 10 a.m.-6 p.m., Sunday, August 17, 4 p.m., at Stone Overlook, \$10-40, \$24-47 second pass, info: 802-858-0258, celebratevermontstate.com



AUG. 16 & 17 | MUSIC

Piano Man

Dan Kennedy isn't your typical new-age musician. A classically trained pianist, he cut his teeth on the grand while studying at the Oberlin Conservatory. There, cradling of experimentation gave way to award-winning compositions rooted in rock and jazz. Blending with backbeats and rhythmic grooves, this unique approach creates what Cam Nelson — the Grammy Award-winning producer behind Kennedy's 2012 release *Detonator* — calls "electronic, fast-tapping, new-age-inspired melodies." As an artist who embraces the explosive aspect of music making, the virtuoso is made for live performances, where his accessible, dynamic style shines.

DAN KENNEDY

Saturday, August 16, 7:30 p.m., at Mountain Music Center, \$15, info: 405-4471. Sunday, August 17, 2-3:30 p.m., at Oak Road Church in Richmond, \$5 suggested donation, info: 434-8870, danekennedy.com

Green Mountain State of Mind

Flora, fauna and fresh food meet art, crafts and music at the Calabrese Vermont Festival. A sampling of the state's working landscape comes to life in the Chittaugus Tent, where artisans and demonstrators cover everything from compost to bookbinding. Pickups up and sample products birthed by this whimsical agriculture in the culinary tent, featuring local cheeses, beer and

AUG. 15 | WORDS



Blazing Trails

In 1995, then 26-year-old Cheryl Strayed embarked on a solo hike of the Pacific Crest Trail, determined to find her footing and reclaim her rapidly unraveling life. Twenty-four days and more than 1,000 miles later, the aspiring writer emerged from the wilderness a different person. Years later, Strayed captured this life-changing experience in her best-selling memoir *Wild*. Fellow writer George Saunders calls her prose "big-hearted, keen-eyed, lyrical, poetic." The Oregon resident heads east to the Vermont College of Fine Arts, where she discusses her craft with president and novelist Toni Gross.

CHERYL STRAYED

Friday, August 15, 4 p.m., at Mount Airy Vermont College of Fine Arts in Montpelier. Free, info: 888-6600, cherylstrayed.com

PHOTO: MICHAEL WATKINS

PHOTO: JEFFREY M. HARRIS

PHOTO: JEFFREY M. HARRIS

PHOTO: JEFFREY M. HARRIS

CHERRY VERMONT CHAMBER MUSIC FESTIVAL

REINER HORN ENSEMBLE: In 1992 in concert with the Reiner Music Center and professional American Baroque chamber ensembles of soloists from various countries. Chamber Music Hall, Wednesday 7 p.m. Free. Info: 330-1454

CRIMINAL MINDS: PLAYERS

See 10/12 10:00am-10pm show
8 p.m. 10/12 10:00-11:00
Info: 100-1011 10/12

NOVA MUSIC: JAZZ

See 10/12 10:00am-10pm show
8 p.m. 10/12 10:00-11:00
Info: 100-1011 10/12

ROBERT & GARY: Robert & Gary

See 10/12 10:00am-10pm show
8 p.m. 10/12 10:00-11:00
Info: 100-1011 10/12

SHOW FROM THE NIGHT: NIGHT

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THE MARYLENE ROBERTSON: CAPS

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Info: 100-1011 10/12

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— OFFER ENDS AUGUST 31 —

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healing
arts

LEVEL 1 introduces students to the world of the novel, *Spenshard*, and the novel's main events and characters. Students will explore the story of the novel through the use of the novel's main events and characters. Students will explore the story of the novel through the use of the novel's main events and characters.

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 p.m. on 7 floors. 194th and
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 Members of the Health program
 start early April 2015, around
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 office location. Address of the
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language

CLASSES—Learn the adult Spanish language the adult English way. Learn from a native speaker who speaks English fluently and has a background in education. You'll always be participating and speaking. **LEADER**—Richard M. Spencer, an instructor for young children living here at the same residence as the adult Spanish classes. **Cost**—\$200. **Information**—Call 800-444-4444 or 800-444-4444. **Website**—www.english.com. **Address**—10000 N. 10th St., Suite 100, Phoenix, AZ 85020. **Phone**—(602) 998-4444. **Fax**—(602) 998-4444. **E-mail**—info@english.com. **Website**—www.english.com. **Address**—10000 N. 10th St., Suite 100, Phoenix, AZ 85020. **Phone**—(602) 998-4444. **Fax**—(602) 998-4444. **E-mail**—info@english.com. **Website**—www.english.com.

martial arts

VIRGINIA BAZZILLAN, J.D.
JTBK's Director for more women and minorities. Bazzillan, J.D., also chairs the company's diversity committee and is a co-host of JTBK's Diversity Initiative. J.D. is an attorney, coach and keynote speaker at meetings and self-conferences. She offers a variety of services through JTBK's Diversity Initiative program in a timely, safe and positive environment. Accepted nominations: Luana from her former boss, June from her former CEO and JTBK's executive HR manager Rita B. Reis, Virginia J.D. also understands gender harassment. J.D. is working on her second book, *Gender and Sexual Harassment: Issues and Solutions for Women*. Bazzillan, J.D. is a JTBK National

Chengduan Hu de Jia

800-495-5555 • 1000 N. 1st St., Ste. 100
Aurora, IL 60002 • www.aiaa.org

meditation

SUPPLEMENTAL PRICES LISTED: Joe Hill La Biondo, featured in multiple previous issues, has taken the 4-4 week introductory course at Santa Cruz Mind Studio. Learn to roll into awareness of thoughts, feelings and sensory experience and to transform your experience of self and world. **Price: \$100** to transform a 4-week course into a 10-week course with each week by noon. Includes and costs more to give to a friend.

Don't miss: 3-3 day. Includes classes come to rest (check out) on total resting duration. **Open to Everyone Mind Studio**. **Rolling in** to Santa Cruz Mind Studio, 10/10.

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MUSIC

ALL BIRTHPLACE RECORDS
 Birth records now available for students for classes and/or insurance for the fall semester. Qualified and eligible employees through advanced are needed to facilitate an appointment. Please contact Betty Olson, Human Resources Director, at olsonb@psdschools.org. For more information visit our website: differences.washstate.edu
 360-735-7338 ext. 2000
 360-735-7338 ext. 1307 TTY

TABLE 1. SUMMARY OF STUDY

student, often rewarded and
artistic director of Burlington
Tavern-Casino, has directed the
past 28 years in performance
and theatricals to be-
members and adults here
in the Burlington area
and throughout New
England. He is currently
the primary indoor host at

spirituality

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tai che

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Source: *U.S. Census Bureau*.

The King-Devlin Style is a dynamic read-to method that maintains the spine while stretching and strengthening the core back muscles.



water sports

[illegible]

writing

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to clasp your left one (and)
find help in finding where to
start? This one-day workshop
explores the latest quest, with
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 day is a flowing crowd on the
 stone patio, with an
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 place your order or to
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EVOLUTION WORLD Evolution's

Stage 1 of Program 2: This stage offers a variety of exercises

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CENTER: Harvard Fogg offers

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while the full daily schedule of activities for all ages, and all the Fun Features are to be held at Virginia Pine Hags Hotsy, so that you can spend plenty of time with your family and get to your perfect spot. Learning all the Fun Features are to be held at Virginia Pine Hags Hotsy, so that you can spend plenty of time with your family and get to your perfect spot. Learning all the Fun Features are to be held at Virginia Pine Hags Hotsy, so that you can spend plenty of time with your family and get to your perfect spot.



100



Burlington, Vt., has long had a vital heavy-music scene. Though often overlooked by mainstream critics, the brainy strains of hardcore, punk and metal form the backbone of Queen City rock. Yet only a handful of heavy local bands has made an imprint beyond the Green Mountains over the years. One of these acts, and perhaps the most celebrated Burlington hardcore band ever, Drowningman, recently reunited for a short run of Northeast shows after calling it quits nearly 10 years ago. They'll play Signal Kitchen in Burlington this Friday, August 15.

Drowningman formed in Burlington in 1995, during what is considered by many to be a watershed era of local music. In the age of Dinosaur Jr. and Nirvana, alt-rock generally ruled local stages and airwaves, thanks to bands such as the Punks, Envy and Guppydog, to name a few. But heavy music was equally integral, owing to the likes of hardcore barnes like Campus Martin (a precursor to Slush and 5 Seconds Forward, all fronted by a band called Death co-conductor Jeff Horvick) and punk rockers the Fugs — led by a pre-Sigal Bandelle Eugene Hitz. There's to say nothing of the legion of lesser-known and now mostly forgotten hardcore and punk bands that ruled the underground.

But Drowningman were different then, and perhaps more sophisticated than, their contemporaries. As hardcore music in the 1990s evolved and splintered into apical subgenres including thrash, emo and screamo, local outcasts like Simon Brody and Javin Leonard integrated numerous styles into a sonic swirl that was, at the time, unprecedented and left a lasting mark on heavy music, locally and beyond.

Drowningman cherry-picked aspects of the music they loved, combining the technical precision of metal with the melodic-leaning creativity of prog, rock and fury of classic hardcore. Added to this was a distinctly melodic bent that owed a debt to post-hardcore bands such as Slush and Port-Harbor. And as Slush's Dave Korte and the Promise Ring, and provided contrast to Brody's ferocious howl.

"Conceptually, what we wanted to do was take a few things, and then those together and see what works," says Brody recently prior to a Drowningman practice



They Still Love You

After nearly 10 years apart, Burlington hardcore icons Drowningman reunite

BY GUY BOLLES

at a North Avenue studio space "We'd hear something and really like it, but often think the band could have gone in a different direction. So what if we took what a band like, say [New Jersey metal core band] Deadguy did and took it in that different direction ourselves?"

"We were trying to interpret the music of bands who were doing these fringe things, and doing them very well," adds Leonard.

"But we were trying to do it without copying them."

Drowningman's original lineup, which included Brody, Leonard, Dave Barrett, Donny Donato and Todd Tomlinson, began touring almost immediately.

"Burlington was a great place to be a band. But we knew from the start we wanted to play out of state as much as we could," says Brody. "So many bands were kind of just waiting around for Burlington to become the next Seattle,

which of course never happened. We didn't want to do that."

By 1997, Drowningman had signed to Boston's Hydra Head Records, home

to bands such as Converge and Puffdust, and soon released a string of well-received recordings. These included a split EP with Dillinger Escape Plan, a band with whom Drowningman often toured and whose frenetic hardcore and progressive-metal leanings were a reasonably close stylistic corollary to its time when there were few others.

"It wasn't just your average 'just just rock,'" writes Steve Lencze in an early *Landside* was a music critic for the *Burlington Free Press* in the early 2000s. "It was a broader, more expansive sound."

"They broke a little bit of ground, musically," says Casey Rice by phone. Rice was the lead singer of Rockfisted,

an early 1990s Burlington metal band whose ranks also included Barrett and eventual Drowningman guitarist Matt Roy and Deryl Robinson. "There weren't a lot of bands out there with those kinds of painting complexities," he adds.

Rice, currently vice president for policy and education at the Petrus of Music Coalition in Washington, D.C., worked as the music editor for *Seven Days* from 2004 to 2007. He credits Brody with possessing the vision to push Drowningman into progressive rock's stylistic territory, as well as far busier rather than just a way with words.

"One of the things that separated them from the pack was Simon's super wit," says Rice. "He's kind of like a hard core Oscar Wilde. They were the most hilarious scary band ever."

"I remember Simon Brody as always being one of the sanest guys in the room, with a good, well-earned edge to him," notes Lencze.

Drowningman were also, personally, perhaps the most in-fan band ever — at least in Burlington. In part owing to their grueling touring and recording schedule, the lineup changed frequently. From 1995 to the band's official split in 2006, at least 19 different musicians played in Drowningman. The lineup for the current reunion traces its lineage to the band's 2000 album for Revelation Records, *Rock and Roll Killing Machine*. That lineup includes Brody, Leonard, Roy, Barrett and drummer Joe Willemart, all of whom are still local and mutually active in varying degrees — with the exception of Brody, who is now a lawyer based in Kansas.

"That's the classic lineup," says Brody. "For the reunion shows, Drowningman will mostly pull from their early 2000s canon, including material from *How They Light Cigarettes* in Prison, *Rock and Roll Killing Machine* as well as Drowningman *Roll Loves You*. But they'll use new material as well as in the works, perhaps including some new recordings and maybe even more shows."

"We'll see what happens," says Brody. "Or if anyone but us still cares." (E)

INFO

Drowningman play Signal Kitchen in Burlington this Friday, August 15, 7:30 p.m., with *Swallowtail* (Twin All We Were in and *Zero Code*) \$10+

SCAN THESE PAGES
WITH THE LAYAR APP
TO WATCH VIDEOS
OF THE ARTISTS
SEE PAGE 8



WE WERE TRYING TO
INTERPRET THE MUSIC OF
BANDS WHO WERE
DOING THESE
FRINGE THINGS.

JAVIN LEONARD

SOUNDbites

BY DAN BELLES



Illustration: Emma-Jane

Still Festering

This is a rare week on the autumn calendar, because, unlike virtually every other week from June to mid-September, no huge music festivals are on the docket. But those of you experiencing withdrawal symptoms from last weekend's annual Lake Champlain Maritime Festival need not fret! A handful of smaller, down-home music festivals are scheduled for this weekend that should help ease your rock needs. And if you're feeling the effects of festival fatigue, maybe at this column end and come back next weekend, when we discuss the Signal Rhythms-cummed WYSIWYG Festival. (Actually, don't do that. Keep reading, decent.)

Anyway, we begin this week's annual fest roundup at Magic Mountain in Londonderry with the second annual Vermont Freedom & Unity Festival. The fest, which runs from Friday, August 15, through Sunday, August 17, is presented by Volunteers for Liberty and will feature a variety of workshops, speakers, activities and seminars, presumably touching on issues of, well, liberty. I suppose. Whatever. There's also music, which is most germane to our purposes here.

Among the acts slated to play are "liberty troubadours" JOSHUA PAUL, folk singer BILL BINK, folk-rock outfit BUCKLE UP THE ANTHELM, songwriter BOB BRIDGES and a pair of local acts concocted

by hip-hop music guru THE OWEN and rockers VITAL BONE. There's also a guy named Bruce E. Levine who calls himself a "renegade psychologist," which apparently is a thing. For more info, visit vtfestival.org/liberty.org.

Tomorrow, this Saturday, August 16, marks the third annual "10" Show Memorial Jon and Rose-Fest Concert at the Abbey Park in Stoddard. To refresh your memory, the concert was founded to honor the late student of WINDHAM, a beloved music teacher at Montpelier Valley Union High School who passed away from cancer in 2004. Here's a nifty tidbit about Oxtander-Rock in the 1970s: he was a member of a band called *WINDY WINDY*, which also included these dudes named GARY BROWN and CHADLEY GRAY, which may be the darkest names we've ever seen. That's probably whyileen and Rose changed their names to avoid *WINDY* and *WINDY*. *WINDY* and *WINDY* started this little band called *WINDY*. In a related story, Brooke Oxtander was *WINDY* much more than any high school music teacher you ever had — sorry Mr. Beeches.

For the third year in a row, Nashville recording artist and "The Wreck" co-writer, *MR. TANGHAR* headlines the concert. He'll be joined by fellow

Music City denizens *AVILA BROWN* — an "American folk" troubadour — and guitarist *ROBERT LEE*. As for the big show, a slew of locals, many of whom were Oxtander's students, will take the stage.

Proceeds from the "10" Show go to Donors Life Vermont, a nonprofit organization sponsored by the Center for Donation and Transplant, which aims to increase the number of registered organ and tissue donors in Vermont. For more on the concert and DCM, visit adonorsvt.com.

Our last stop on this week's festival express is the annual Peacham Acoustic Music Festival, which runs this Friday and Saturday, August 15 and 16, at numerous locations in downtown Peacham.

This year's lineup of folk, a little bit of bluegrass music is, well, peachy. Highlights include renowned songwriter JONATHAN DOWNES, resonator guitar and bluegrass, acclaimed old-time duo *JOHN HARRIS & CARL JONES*, and "brisk pickin'" duo *WAYNE HENDERSON & VERNIE WHITE*.

On the local angle, check out *BOB ARCE & CATARINO ORRICO*, classical pianist *ANDREW SPELTERIAN*, MC, guitarist *WILL FISHMAN*, Latin-tinged folk rockers *THEMUS WELLS*, and the excellent bluegrass ensemble the *ACACIA HORN*, among several others.

For more info on the Peacham Acoustic Music Festival, visit peachamvt.com.

BiteTorrent

In other outdoor show news, this Saturday, August 16, two of Burlington's most high-profile and dynamic rock bands, *ROCKAWAY* and *WINDY WINDY*, take to the high seas for Rock the Boat 2 aboard the M/V Champlain Ferry, presented by Wining Winders.

[Full disclosure: Both of those bands are real. Also, *RP* front man *WINEY WINDERS* works for *Seven Days*. Also, *WINDY* drummer *JAMES OWEN* is an occasional freelance music writer for *Seven Days* — see his latest review on page 42. Also, *WINDY* guitarist and vocalist *BILL WINEY* got married last weekend to

DAVIDSONS • WINEY

LIVE culture
VERMONT ARTS NEWS • VIEWS

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SOUNDbites

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 35



RUFUS WAINWRIGHT

his longtime girlfriend **EMMA PHILLIPS**. Neither bore a resemblance to 7D. Just thought it was cool. Congrats, you crazy kids!

The ferry departs from the Ring Street ferry dock promptly at 7 p.m., so this is one advance you don't want to adjust for rock and roll time and shore up late. Order tickets at ticketfly.com.

In tribute band news, **WOODSTOCK** renews fans will want to enjoy by the Higher Ground Showhouse Lounge this Friday, August 15, when **RHCP** tribute act **ANDREW CHAPPELLE** takes to the

stage. (See what they did there!) The band actually features a Vermont expat, **Colton Roberts**. **JOHANN VAN LANGE**, Savage is now based in Seattle and had been playing bass in original bands there. And then he realized what increasing numbers of locals have discovered lately: You can make a lot more money playing someone else's music than your own. (That sound you hear is me screaming my head against my desk.)

In a recent email, Savage writes, "I found my true passion in the business side of music, and I felt there was no easier way to develop that side than in

start a tribute to the band who got me hooked on playing bass guitar in the first place."

There ya have it. As tribute bands go, **RHCP** are a pretty entertaining facsimile of the real thing, and seems to have found the sense of humor **RHCP** front man **ANTHONY KIDDO** apparently lost right after *Blood Sugar Sex Magic*. Savage also gets VT bonus points for reportedly having a **VIRUS-QUAT** tattoo.

If you go, show up early and check out local rockers **MAINTENANCE**, who are kind of like a tribute to grunge, only with — *gasp!* — original music.

Last but not least, the local music community was saddened to learn of the passing of guitarist and vocalist **RUFUS WAINWRIGHT**, who died Friday, August 8. Rufus had been a fixture on local stages since the 1990s and played in more bands than we could count. He was widely regarded as one of the state's very best blues guitarists and was an incomparable stageer.

As of this filing, details of Wainwright's passing have not been made available to Seven Days. But we'll have more on him on our art blog, *Love Culture*, this week.

Our deepest condolences go out to Wainwright's friends, family and collaborators. Rest in peace, Rufus. ♫



JAKE TODD

Listening In

A guide to what's new and hot, from live night through your car, this week.

JAKE TODD, *Music*, *Newsday*
JANET KATZ, *Uncut*
AMIN, *Armenia*, *Time*
ANDREW CHAPPELLE, *Rock*
ANDREW CHAPPELLE, *Rock*

POSITIVE PIE

MONTPELIER

8:15 JOHN PERRY & THE HOT SHOTS
8:30 BJ BRAD BIRTHDAY GREN
8:45 FERNWINDON
9:00 RHYMDE
9:15 RUSTIC OVERTONES
9:30 SLANT SOX
9:45 PRIMATE PUSCH
10:00 HOT HEEN MAGIC

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The Mane Event

need us to tell you who **GEORGE CLAYTON & PARLIAMENT** **REMARKABLE** are, do you? Didn't think so. We can, however, tell you that the 88-year old Clinton recently shared off his signature window colored streak, which is pretty wild when you think about it. Apparently, once pioneering dark steam/petrolium shaming dog on a fresh the every now and again. Anyhow, GCFP will bring the Barry M! 18 Show on this Friday, August 15, with **ALAN EMMETT** **PLANNING/STREET** — who presumably have the same haircuts as when they played **Nectar's** under this year.



Residents of the Manor

Marble House Project, Dorset

BY FANELA POLSTON

On an idyllic summer evening last weekend, cars streamed down Dorset West Road and up a sweeping drive to a hill-side barn. There, long tables etched laden with incense burners, whiskey and wine sat up in the corner and, on the veranda, a bartender offered up wines, beers and iced water flavored with lemon and lime. Guests rained the afternoon lawn, dipped into a spring-fed swimming pool or traipsed farther up the hill to look at an abandoned quarry and mountain views.

Vermont wedding reception? No, but this was another highly anticipated event that brought our curious locals — and one reporter from Burlington.

Saturday's event was the first public open house of the Marble House Project, a new artist residency program anchored in a sumptuous property.

The enormous, Federal-style Marley-Lefevre House — built in 1815 from stone quarried right up the hill — sits near the road and in, for passersby, a slow-down-and-gawk kind of mansion. No surprise it's on the National Register of Historic Places but what sets the house apart, even in tiny Dorset, is the adjacent formal garden, complete with marble fountains, walkways and staircases, ascending the hill and topped by a marble portico. Its intricate elegance comes courtesy of renowned American landscape architect Charles Downing Lay (1877-1956).

The property also holds several artist studios, which bring us back to the point: a last weekend's event. In June, the Marble House Project began providing two-week and month-long residencies to six to eight individuals at a time. For the inaugural season, the recipients came by invitation (the future will bring an application process); they work in visual arts, music/composition, dance,

film, poetry, fiction or journalism, or a combination of disciplines.

In addition, the project presents open-to-the-public workshops, ranging from poetry writing to mixed-media. That last was illustrated two ways in which the Marble House Project differs from a typical artist colony: It maintains a creative focus on food, local agriculture and "personhood principles" and it offers residencies for families.

All this is the

vision of two women from New York: Danielle Epstein and Thia Schapiro. Life partners as well as co-founders of the Marble House Project, they purchased the house and 48-acre property

two years ago — for \$1,450,000. Epstein revealed — and upon a couple of years and hundreds of thousands more dollars cleaning and restoring it.

The pair started a classic post-and-beam barn from Waterville and reconstructed it on their hill as an event space. They had a sewer, another barn built behind it, including a caterer's kitchen and composting toilets. They discovered that marble-lined swimming pool, covered in muck, and had it restored. And they hired a farmer, Pablo Elton, to manage the organic gardens and grow food for the facility's residents and functions. Last year, the women also purchased the Marble West Inn just down the road.

Epstein's successful career in New York City real estate made this project possible, but her artistic passion — she makes photography-based works — fueled the idea behind it. "I wanted to combine the two careers," Epstein explained in an interview the day after the party. Schapiro is an art therapist and assistant chair of the art therapy graduate department at Pratt Institute. To the Marble House Project she brings an understanding of and commitment to the power of art to heal, to fulfill and, as the project's mission statement declares, to foster a community "that nurtures the imaginative spirit."

"All these elements come together," said Schapiro. "We want this to be self-sustaining."

"We both wanted to do this kind of project for a long time, well outside of the city," Epstein said. "This property one day just came up online."

Schapiro finished her sentence: "Giving here confirmed the idea."

What the women didn't know when they arrived in Dorset was how the community would respond. Their first bit of support came at an early morning committee meeting. When an official peppered Epstein with questions about



WE BOTH WANTED
TO DO THIS KIND OF
PROJECT FOR A LONG TIME.

DANIELLE EPSTEIN



SCAN THIS PAGE WITH
THE LAYAR APP TO SEE
MORE PHOTOS

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NEW THIS WEEK

burien/montpelier

➤ **WENDY HALLGREN** Images of nature and spirituality by a poet, painter and musician. *Thursday August 14 & 15, 16-18 August 17-21, 10-12:30* French House Farm, Farm Lane & Wilbury in Montpelier

edgewater/everett green

➤ **PAUL GORDON, DEBBIE JOHNSON AND GREGORY CARTE** Gordon works in glass, wood and bronze by the evergreen artists. *Thursday August 14, 15 & 16-18 August 19-21, 10-12:30* Including a gallery talk with artist Gordon. *Thursday August 14, 15 & 16-18 August 19-21, 10-12:30* French House Farm, Farm Lane & Wilbury in Montpelier

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ONGOING SHOWS

burien/montpelier

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their place, the realists, an audience member stood up and suggested in just "five years when they want," because it was a great idea.

The open-house attendance on Saturday confirmed what the founders have learned about their adopted town: "Everybody wants [Marble House] to be part of their life and to be great," Schapiro said. "That has been a private property for hundreds of years, but it's also been here for the public, once though they didn't have access to it."

When Marble House arrives every few weeks to create new relationships, fostered by mutual creative stimulation and by the agrarian beauty of the setting. Epstein and Schapiro, too, have found a neurological community with their small staff. Former Elliott, chef/manager Connie Strang and program director Brian Waller. "I feel completely blessed," Epstein said simply.

Looking to the future, she and Schapiro see the Marble House Project, like its guests, growing organically. Indeed, this place appears to be fertile soil for artists and farmers alike. "We'll all see," Schapiro said. "There are so many things that bloom here."

Contact: pamela@marblehouseproject.com

INFO

The Marble House Project, 1901 Center West Road, Dorset, Vermont 05834. VISIT US AT MARBLEHOUSEPROJECT.COM. See website for future events. marblehouseproject.org

VISUAL ART IN SEVEN DAYS:
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ART SHOWS

TRAVELER NIGHT "organic forms" an all-star group of local artists. Through August 13. Info: 303-333-0030. Meet at the Gallery Northwest, University College, in Riverside Center.

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UPSIDE DOWN SCULPTURE LOCATION
On the gallery floor along the main entrance path and throughout downtown curator Rachel Moore has selected colorful sculptures from a list of 25 artists. The 16 sets of art have been from New England, New York, Chicago and Mexico City. In addition, visiting Japanese artists Aki Ikemura and Janni Inaba have also been invited to share works. Through October 15, "THE AFFAIRS ARE IN CLARITY." A list of artists, tracks and websites follows. *—Gretchen Shawan Davis*
Maine: Jennifer Harty, Tami Harty
New England: Lynn Hershman, Annette Hershman, Susan Springer and Neil Tait, Susan Corcoran, Amy Rahm, Through August 31 (info: 203-838-6838) *—Leslie David-Gordon in Boston*

EXPLAIN ARTISTS IN VERMONT: Paintings by Donald Allen Huxley, Charles/Heidi TM, Nicholas and Cole Schloff inspired by Vermont landscapes. Through December 15, 1986, 122 EPM Street, Mount Airy, on Sullivan Street.

ELVIRA PHOENIX, 'The Earth from Above,' photographic studies in her series—The present landscape and water—is a wonderful tribute by the Luxembourg artist, **GUILLAUME LANGE**. Immense images are a wonder from the final ground which would include aspects of the world's most beautiful garden sculptures back from a historic monument of the earth. Through August 26, 19th, 2015, 2015, from the Center for the Arts.

FRANK WOJCIK is a senior partner at the New York City law firm of Kaye, Rovee & Fierman LLP. He is a frequent speaker at seminars on the law of trademarks and unfair competition. Mr. Wojcik is also a past president of the New York City Bar Association's Intellectual Property Law Section.

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CALL TO ARTISTS

CALL FOR SANITY: THE ART OF MADNESS
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150 ARMY PLACES: Collapsible photographs that define locations, from visible locales to the ultra-real in the place to your own backyard. **Jorge Ordoñez**, *Neofuturismo Photos*, **Stedelijk Museum**, October 1. **Barbican Gallery**, **London**, through October 1. <http://info.stedelijk.nl/jorge-ordonez>

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SHAWN BOWEN & NIKKI SWAN "Newport Artists: an exhibit of local art and paintings. Through June 30, 1994. 35-3705. (Shawn & Nikki's Art Collection Inc.)

PAINTED COUNTRY Lincolnton, N.C.'s abstract and painted stone signs, selected from the local artist's total oeuvre of more than 1,000 works. Through August 30. 5475 Road 1250, Hickory, NC 28601.

• **SEBASTIAN TUNGATMAN** Turn & Spout new abstract sculpture by artist taking off from the pattern blue and brown. Made on and with TUB. Whole August 15-4th June Through September 1. Info: 276-8855 Gallery 928 or 9300

med river valley/waterbury

discovered her art by more than 50 local artists, including paintings, manuscripts and sculpture as part of the Newsmen Arts Festival. Newspapers added throughout the month (and Thursday to Sunday) cover in 5 parts. Through September 3, info 438-0493. Big Red Barn Gallery, at Laramie Plains West of mid

Through August 24. Info: 301-867-0200. *Big Screen Gallery* is Rockstar.

JAMES MCKENZIE: *Witnesses to the Holocaust: 15 portraits by the Northern Kingdom artist introduce women and people of color, two groups that have been underrepresented in Christian imagery. "Journeys through History," part of "Witnesses to the Holocaust: Through August 11, 1945-1946," includes images of church and host.*

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CHINA 2014

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movies

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STORM AND DANGER If you're in the mood for state-of-the-art destruction, this jaw-dropping movie has the best big-screen storm effects this fall

Into the Storm ★★★

Let's be honest: They should've just called the cheap Twisters. Because these pretty much what this is — a remake of the 1996 film *Twister*. Helen Hunt offers less wit than *Twister* and more tornadoes. Way more.

Neither the upping nor the downing. Some of the most enduring movies are about bad weather. I'm a total sucker for romance like *Twister*. *The Day After Tomorrow*, 2004, *Ice Master* and *The Perfect Storm*.

It's been about 20 years since Philip Seymour Hoffman brilliantly introduced audiences to the cult of storm chasing in *Twister*. Since then, CNN has gotten better, and global warming has gotten worse. So it probably was as good a time as any for *Into the Storm*.

Directed by Steven Quale (*Druid*, *Demonition*), and scripted by John Swenson, the film offers yet another example of the small-budget, pitchfork-slicing approach to a movie: Besides forced situations to which someone has to be reacting something so there can even be a movie. Can we all agree the whole forced-logic thing is over? Thank you.

The story concerns the fabled intersection of two groups. The first is a team of storm trackers chasing a documentary about tornadoes. It's led by the mismatched pair of Pete (John Walsh from *ER*) ("You") a guy who operates "on contract" and Allison (Haley Joel Osment from *AMG*) ("The Walking Dead") a meteorologist who just likes to see the dots and Dopplers.

When a freakishly strong front approaches a countryside couple, the pair becomes like an ill-matched couple about where it's likely to make landfall. The idea, if you can't find yourself in the middle of the dust-fest weather parties over "warming."

The other group consists of no fun father Gary (Richard Armitage from *The Hobbit* trilogy) and his two teenage sons. When the ES hit hits the fan, one kid winds up trapped in a building reduced to rubble and the other (Kellan Lutz) and the old man runs the kid to save him in *Demon Quale* in *The Day After Tomorrow*.

The filmmakers operate in perfunctory allusion to *Twister*, *Kerrie* and *Standy*. But they get the obligatory Look what men

done to the planet's stuff out of the way fast so they can devote as much of the film's 90-minute running time as possible to its real message: Wow, state-of-the-art filmed clouds swirling state-of-the-art have look pretty-freaking cool.

The dialogue may be laughable. I lost count of how many times somebody yelled, "We've got to get out of here!" but, as meteorological common go, the movie's best scenes are serious fun. As the picture progresses, they increase both in size and in sill-out witless.

The third act is a natural disaster plotlet that pays off with everything from a giant storm cell moving upstate through town on an invisible vortex, to a qualitative collapse of everything like swallowing everything (and everyone) in its path, to a sequence it so erupts where jumbo gets on

lifted and hurled by 300 mph winds like paper planes.

As cinema, *Into the Storm* has minimal redeeming value. Its characters are generic, the disaster is uncharacterized and the ending is not short on cuts to rescue as victims from debris lagoon.

The tornadoes, by contrast, have raw power to match their wind power. They are the *San Juanes* of bad weather. The *Twister* film of *Twister* is bad weather. The *Twister* film of *Twister* is bad weather. The *Twister* film of *Twister* is bad weather. The *Twister* film of *Twister* is bad weather.

This is a storm that's fun from the start, but adjust your expectations accordingly and you just may have an experience that doesn't blow.

RICK KIDMAN

The Hundred-Foot Journey ★★★

In recent New York Times piece, A.O. Scott argued that "a self-conscious 'foodie culture' is one of the last bastions of the middle-class life point was to emphasize the democratic virtues of middle-class culture and honest to recent decline. But *The Hundred-Foot Journey* won't help here. Produced by Steven Spielberg and (spoils) starring this foodie Rick Baker everything that makes highbrow stuff in middle-class entertainment seemed uncomfortable, carry humor and plating, and fully mainstream about the script (even for diversity) by making every character into an ethnic stereotype.

Granted, this every piece of culinary success worth its first act. *The Hundred-Foot Journey* goes good food (and landscape) story. Director Lasse Hallström makes the entire hinges on obviously ripe scenarios. In forest ruins and perennially stuffed penguins. But when better films would drive into the crash behind these smooth-looking elaborate food and generally show the surface, finding an already polished work as "food is a metaphor" and "no serious taste life, don't you think?"

Based on the 2000 novel by Richard C. Maas, the film is created by Hassan Hiji (Dimitri D'Orsi) a Muslim food who inherited a talent for cooking from his mother. After political strife destroys the family restaurant and takes Maas' wife Hassan and his Dad (Don Pardo) and four siblings find asylum in Europe.

In France, a headstrong refugee down to get down sides in a seaside village with a perfect restaurant owner for sale. The problem: A headstrong first story the pop-culture Miss Mallory (Diane Kruger) provides her own restaurant, *Le Jardin*. *Le Jardin* is like a Michelin star she'll defend to the death and she is not happy with the odds of carry-in with her.

The set-up promises fun, if cliché, culture-clash love, with both Maas and Pardo playing their roles to the hilt. Afterward a high-toned French event, she laughably declares all curries identical to her palate, while he Maas comically and constantly misunderstands her with his food.

Had the movie stuck with these two veteran actors and deepened their characters, it might have been more interesting. Instead, significantly more severe new goes to the party young folks Hassan and Miss Mallory's family soon catch, *Mixxer* (Schubert) Le Best, who gives her an education in home cuisine that, honestly, evades into romance.

While both actors are likable these characters are peculiarly underwritten. Toward the middle of the film when Miss Mallory describes Hassan as "amazing" due comes in a surprise because we've never seen him do anything but serve soufflé at Maas' place and roll his eyes at his dad's antics. (His poor siblings get even less involvement.) Tolerated that for not, Maas shows no little personality — let alone



STILL THE STOVE Kruger is in the kitchen, not, unfortunately, the kitchen. *Hundred-Foot Journey*'s book adaptation

ambition — that when the film cheaply becomes the coming of age story in both lines were involved movies.

Once upon a time, Hallström was the critically acclaimed director of films like *My Life as a Dog* today with two Nicholas Sparks movies under his belt he's all about making strappy-panty landscapes and people look even prettier. One need not be a foodie to fantasize about living in that style. He washed French village with the spices of exotics and authentic Indian food (and it's not the red hot) and it's a couple of scenes, such as a late scene where

Maas and Pardo dance at night, Hallström gives the film a quiet elegance and grace.

Watching these scenarios, one has to have such much more memorable *The Hundred-Foot Journey* might have been if it were allowed to unfold naturally, without the bland stereotypes and trampled up conflicts. If this movie were sincere, it would be full of vivid, glowing, super-dense moments with no regard to the whole foodie profile. And you don't have to be the highest kind of foodie to know the result is bland.

HANROT HARRISON

Eva Solberger's

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NEW IN THEATERS

Born-again★★★★★ *W. church* *Linklater* (50 feet strong) *he* *filmed* *the* *boy* (Eike *Control*) *over* 12 years *to* *reveal* *some* *of* *a* *child* *and* *some* *period* *a* *century* *of* *his*. *Editor* *4-week* *interview* *it's* *brutal* *to* *play* *his* *parents* (300-min. *R* *Spiky* *Sawney*)

THE DEPENDABLES For musicians, there's nothing more dependable than a team of reliable videographers who don't care how difficult staying power. The cinematographers featured in *Shooting Stars: Hollywood Stars Interviewed Behind the Scenes* (Arts & Letters, \$24.95) and *Shooting Stars: Behind the Scenes* (Arts & Letters, \$24.95) are among those independent-minded. Patrick Hughes directed both from PG-13.

[illegible][illegible]

FRANKIE IN THE MIDDLE (TV-14) In Henry Aiken's debut, set in the Fifties in the south of France, comes a film about a director trying to unleash a spiritual [Emma Stone] as a show. With Karen Gillan, Anthony Mackie, and others. (TV from PG-13, Henry Aiken)

WHAT IF: A guy (Zanele Raskliffe) and a girl (Dina Hassan) who's in a long-term relationship find the mother drops together in this Canadian narrative comedy that leads to *When Harry Met Sally*. M. Gwyn (Daphne Alexander) directed. (PG-13, Parents)

NOW PLAYING

WANDERLY GORE leads his wife, daughter, plays a remarkably small role when needed help of neighbor Guro Kaurer when he is stranded with a broken prehistoric *1970s* network comedy. *Red Gumbel, James and Anne Parker, Gals Brown* (1981) (PG-13) (reviewed by R. K. 3/20)

2024 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176 For the Director, July 1, 2024
[REDACTED] returns with a new musical drama in which a four-person songwriting trio (Gina Gershon) and a producer who believes in her (Mark Ruffalo) team up to record an album as the director of the film

Did he eat? Possible like any? Just from a week checked and stayed in the corner about a fire-dying that who is mostly itself – and accounts with his family – by opening a food truck. (11) with B. and family (11) (11)

SAVED BY THE FLARE OF THE SPED NINJA Home security battles a smart, snarling cat for control of the South in this action on the surprise hit floor of the Planet of the Apes. **BOOK** Daily Dishonors: Ruth Rendell and Andy Serkis. **Music** Gwyneth H. Keworth (directed) 108 min PG-13

SUNSHINE OF THE GALAXY **WWW.PINKS** may be another Marvel Comics Time Machine on wheels as *Revolving Circle* is an interactive region where residents can tap to learn to defeat a special threat. With the *Sentinel*, *Revolving Circle* has *Marvel* and *Wonders*. James *Coyle* (*Super*) directed (52) *Revolving Circle* *www.RevolvingCircle.com*

REPTILES & AMPHIBIANS It's a life for another 52 weeks in gentlemanly style: the voicingman of Greek legend (his first love played by Dauphin-Johnson, Ian McKellen, Julie Hart and many other fine guests) coming forth in a warty costume (Jeff Kober) (Tues 8-9:30) (download) (R) (m) (PG-13)

THE HUNDRED-FOOT JOURNEY **★★★½** The owner of an elite French restaurant (Javier Bardem) lost everything in the aftermath of his wife's suicide; a family-owned broken bakery (Lidia Haluchova) is run by a woman who's been abandoned by her husband (Javier Bardem). With two Parisian chefs (Javier Bardem) and a family-owned bakery (Lidia Haluchova) is run by a woman who's been abandoned by her husband (Javier Bardem).

[illegible]

JOSEPHINE KIMBLE is molecular biologist, Michael P. H. Abrams is the eye biologist, and Josephine Kimble's sister is a mammalian anatomy lecturer at E. Cornell University. Director Mike Caffo (Aradon's father), NSF Governor Bruce B. Babbitt, and Astrid Rivers, Friday, 1993, are all.

[illegible]

WCP&A Scarlett Johansson starts casting the staggeringly vile pair of his indie-and-lesbian-a-half leading superstars in *WCP&A* actor-director Thompson's director Luc Besson. *WCP&A* Thompson's French and his sub Chel. (50 min. 8. reviewed by H. N. 5/10)

A MOST WANTED MAN IN THE WILD The late Philip Seymour Hoffman plays the weary Wambaug, an off-kilter assassin who's laying low until a young chickenhead (Madsen) in the underwear store is his adaptation of John Le Carré's novel from director Anton Corbijn (*The American*). With Gregory Kinnear and Richard Jenkins. **PG-13**

PLANES: FIRE AND RESCUE WHEN THE script to Sherry's surprise anniversary hit, the indie plane that fulfilled his saving-the-world-from-himself craving with an intriguing twist upon an expected hot location.

SEE TIPS ■ ■ ■ In long-line example (Jimmy Kimmel/Land Commotion) this makes a nice loop to splice up their footage — or try to find the real footage it replaced, and to put it in the bracket. (Jim Kimmel asked the comedy. With Robin Carlsby, Elie Kravitz and Rob Lowe. [24 in 6, 8])

NEW THIS WEEK:



August 13, 2014:
Multimedia producer
Eve Solberger takes the
plunge at three beloved
Vermont swimming holes
—Bristol Falls, Warm Falls
and Lemay Swirl Hole in
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IN CASE YOU MISSED IT:

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JULY 23, 2014 Twelve last July held of Thayer's peak out from behind the Carson City Hotel is parking lot, and Barbara Aaker is still there at The Shurtlough. residents has been cultivating the 12-apt colorful garden for the past 20 years.

ratings

★ = instant pause
★★ = could've been worse, but not wild
★★★ = has its moments, so-so
★★★★ = smarter than the average bear
★★★★★ = as good as it gets

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Into the Storm
Tut's in the Cage
Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles

Friday 15 — Thursday 21
Guardians of the Galaxy
Into the Storm
Tut's in the Cage
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Seven of Nine: Planet of the Apes
Tut's in the Cage
Lucky
Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles
Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles 3D

Friday 15 — Thursday 21
The Expendables 3
The Hunted: First Journey
Tut's in the Cage
Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles
Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles 3D

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The Expendables 3
The Hunted: First Journey
Tut's in the Cage

Guardians of the Galaxy 3D
Hercules
The Hunted: First Journey
Into the Storm
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Lucky
Planet: Five & Seven
Step Up All In 3D
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The Expendables 3
The Hunted: First Journey
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MAJESTIC 10

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Lucky
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Planet: Five & Seven
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LULU EIGHTBALL



Curses, Folded Again

Police in Elmhurst, Ill., arrested Jacob Cline, 26, for jumping bail after he took part in the local newspaper's "Four Questions" feature and allowed his photo to be published. An officer noticed Cline's photo and tracked him down. (Associated Press)

Getting to Be a Habit

Rogue trouble forced the pilot of a small plane to make an emergency landing on a highway near East Norwich, N.Y. A week later, he made another emergency landing on the same highway. "It wasn't one of my better landings," Frank Piccolo, 75, said, adding, "my wife is going to kill me." (New York's WGBS-TV)

Facebook Follies

Oscar Oscar Aguilar, 21, who Mexican authorities described as obsessed with taking impressive photos of himself to post on social media, borrowed a gun and was waving it around while he took pictures with his boyfriend when he accidentally shot himself in the head. (Chicago's ABC7)

How the Great Unwashed Live

New York City's Department of Housing Preservation and Development approved a proposed apartment building with separate entrances for rich and poor residents. The 13-story complex will have 200 luxury units overlooking the Hudson River and 25 units facing the street for low-income families, including affordable housing units. Extol Development Company, a tax break and the right to erect a larger building than would normally be allowed. As for what critics call the "poor door," fellow developer David Weiss (brother of Toll Brothers) explained, "I think it's unfair to expect very high-income homeowners who paid a fortune to live in the building to have to be in the same bus as low-income renters, who are very

**PEOPLE WOULD RATHER BE DOING
SOMETHING, EVEN IF THAT'S
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fortunate to live in a new building in a great neighborhood." (New York Post and Britain's Daily Mail)

A San Francisco nonprofit group equipped a former public restroom bus to offer free showers to homeless people. The Last Mile mobile shower bus features two full private bedrooms with clean beds, shampoo, soap and more. Founder Debrae Stender explained that the bus can reach homeless people scattered throughout the city, plus it avoids high rents that a fixed location would entail. (Associated Press)

Second-Amendment Follies

Keith Vlach, 26, the firearms instructor for the Illinois, Texas Police Department, accidentally shot himself in the hand while using his personal Swiss automatic pistol to teach his family to shoot. (Pittsburgh's KDKA-TV)

A 20-year-old New York man was shot by another man during an argument while filming a rap video. "I was being fought over when the star, who's better," said witness Ali Abdul. "They were drunk. They spit at each other, then one guy pulled out a gun and shot the other guy five times." Police said the victim was critically injured, and the shooter fled. (New York Daily News)

DHS special agents fire their guns accidentally more than they fire them intentionally, according to an investigation by the Treasury Inspector General for Tax Administration. Between 2009 and 2011, the report found, "there were a total of eight firearms discharges classified as intentional use of force incidents and 11 discharges classified as accidents." (CNNNews.com)

Shocking Discovery

People would rather be doing something, even if that's hurting themselves, than doing nothing or being alone with their thoughts, according to researchers at the University of Virginia. When they gave 19 men a 15-minute "thinking" session, with the option of administering a mild electric shock, 12 of them gave themselves at least one electric shock. By comparison six of 24 women shocked themselves. Prior to the sessions, all of the participants had received a sample of the shock and indicated they would pay not to be shocked again. "Simply being alone with their own thoughts for 15 minutes," the investigation reported on the journal *Science*, "was apparently so aversive that it drove many participants to self-administer an electric shock that they had earlier said they would pay to avoid." (University of Virginia press release)

Victims of the Week

British authorities reported that a 54-year-old man was trying to force open a toilet door on a train in Essex when the door opened and one woman's manhoods emerged, shouting. Police Sgt. Emma Weir said one of the women punched and kicked him onto the station platform, where he fell on another woman, who accused him of trying to steal her purse and punched him in the face. The men suffered a broken nose and one black eye, according to Weir, who offered no explanation why sex women were in the same toilet. (BBC News)

JEN SIZENGEN

WILDFIRE WEENIES

THEir GUN INTERESTER, KYLE'S DREAMING OF FUNDING THE FIRE-TOUR AND GUN-TOUR IN THE WEST.



IT'S LIKE THE REPUBLICAN PLATFORM PLAN FOR AMERICA'S UNEMPLOYED, ASIDE.



HOW THE FUTURE SERVICE MEN BATTING FOR THE WILDFIRE PREVENTION PLAN.



REACTING TO OFFERS AFTER THEY REPAIRED: IT'S ABOUT THE REAL.



HARRY BLISS



"These are way overdue..."

FRANK KRAUSE

DEEP DARK FEARS



I HAVE A DEAL WORKED OUT WITH THE THINGS THAT HIDE IN MY BASEMENT.



AFTER I SHUT OFF THE LIGHTS, I HAVE EXACTLY TEN SECONDS TO LEAVE SAFETY.



I ALWAYS USE THE FULL TEN SECONDS.



HOPING TO SEE A FLASH OF MOVEMENT JUST AS I REACH SAFETY.

Have a deep, dark fear of your own? Submit it to cartoonist Frank Krause at deep-dark-fears.bumble.com and you may see your neurons illustrated in these pages.

RED MEAT

something just a bit off your

Max Cannon

Wow! That thing doesn't look like a pig. That conspiracy all over! But I bet you made that a challenge on a pig.



Also, please don't think I'm going to let you know that I'm a pig.



You can't believe that I'm a pig. I mean, the way I look, I'm a pig. But I'm not a pig. I'm a pig.



THIS MODERN WORLD

PRESS CONFERENCE

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WE'VE WON THE NOBEL PRIZE FOR PEACE. WE'VE WON IT FOR OUR EFFORTS TO BRING ABOUT A WORLD OF PEACE AND HARMONY.

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by TOM TOMORROW

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KAZ
PUMPKINS





Leo

(July 23-Aug. 22)

When we are launching any big project, our minds tend to see the full truth about how difficult it will be. We know beforehand all of the tasks we would eventually face, we might never attempt it. Economist Albert O. Hirschman called this the principle of the "bathing hand." It forces us to see honestly into obdurate work that will probably take longer than we thought, and compel us to secure new resources and creativity. To be clear: What's hidden from us are not only the obstacles but also the unexpected assistance we will get along the way.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) At your next meal, imagine that the food you are eating is filled with special nutrients that enhance your mission. During the meal after that, fantasize that you are ingesting ingredients that will boost your perceptions. The next time you snack, visualize your food as doing instead with elements that will augment the amount of food you eat. In general? This you will be ready to carry out your assignment, for the coming weeks. Use your imagination to pump up your morale and perceptions as you carry out secret adventures that you have not trusted yourself enough to try before now.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) The tones and tenors of the daily rightside plans are highly panacea. It suggests they cause drama and death. On the other hand, a drug consumed from the same point is on the left. Health Organizations List of Chemical Medicines. It's helpful in finding ways to access from gastrointestinal and heart problems to Parkinson's. It's a metaphor of equivalent in your life. Gemini: An influence that can either be slowing or helping, depending on various factors. I suggest that most one of these lines where you should be very focused on ensuring that the healing effect predominates.

CANCER (June 21-July 22) A New York doctor offers a service he calls Potentia. Jane French, MD, talks into your project. From us to make the most of these lines, we need to see that the most powerful they are in no danger of becoming subtle emotional signals that might help their opponents guess their strategy. I understand there might sometimes be some in adopting a patient for when you are in the mood of trying to win at poker or at chess games. But the "Cancer" nature. Cancer: I recommend the opposite approach. New research likely to be successful if you want everything you're trying. Let your feet and eyes be as eloquent as they can be.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) The storm coming off the Swedish wind undoubtedly is "red strawberry patch." Metaphorically, it refers to a special place that feeds like your private sanctuary. It may be now-to-find or unappreciated by others, but for you it's

CHECK OUT NOW PREVIOUS EDITIONS HERE

in a spot that impress you to relax deeply. You might have had in the changing epithets there. When you are in this refuge, you have a taste of what it's like to be at home on the world. Do you have a subconscious? Maybe it's not, but I can be told you. If you already do, spend extra time there in the coming week.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22) If I'm finding the ideological arena, especially, the left is also about to ring for you. The festive fight will finish. The ideological evidence will finish its life, you are going to win a battle on a 10-point scale. Like you will get on it as you feel more like you'll be paid in becoming king or queen. But it's possible I'm a bit off in my projections, and your success will be better than I anticipate. Maybe at first you will feel as awkward the feeling of the Year or discover the fact of the Decade or enjoy the Most Meaningful Degree of the Century.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21) A foreign military big accident he wanted to keep his country's government down the left side. About 100,000 people were killed, and it was, over 100,000 people were killed, and it was the Russian Telecommunication Authority. Big guy. How much? I would like to see you someone similar level of process and diligence as you work in the heart of your favorite cause. Scorpio: The coming weeks will be just like for you. So, get very serious about the changes you would like to help create in the world.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21) Working as a journalist for the Poppy News Group, Peter Ganser, Simon Ganser wanted to enter a group of employees who in a network jungle. He decided he was willing to do whatever was necessary to get the big scoop. After making a difficult journey through rough terrain to reach them, he was told he would be given the information that he sought on one condition: that he be accompanied with someone else as part of a convincing ritual. Ganser agreed, to the place where the story and ultimately won a prize for his report. I said I remembered you a prize for his pursuit of your current goal. Sometimes. On the other hand, it might be wise for you to consider making a sacrifice.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) Katsushika is a Japanese woodblock print series "Golden Tiger." It refers to the price of being created, dealing with deeper than being with actual gold or silver. Katsushika suggests that something very scarce, maybe even a valuable object, may be broken. The words and the feeling of the woodblock are integral parts of the story and elemental elements to be dug up or hidden from any of that income with you about your current experience. Capricorn? I'm not going to do it. Let's call this the Katsushika photo of your eye.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18) After the end of his career, the painter Henri Matisse created a paper-cut composition he called "Le Tableau" or "The Boat." It is an abstract piece that does not depict a direct scene. That's why the Museum of Modern Art in New York thought perhaps he was just too creatively being it upside down back in 1950. Upon first, it could be a piece. Fortunately after a week and a half, it was a knowledge, a piece, and the position of "Le Tableau" was corrected. I'm wondering if there is a corporate phenomenon with you now. How about you? It is possible that a part of your life got inverted or compressed. If so, will you be short enough to see the year and know enough to fix it? I hope you want into this year to finish.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20) "I own my business," he thought, especially in the very best, "cheer," said Robert Andrich & Co. Chesterton. "And then going away and doing the most opposite." In going to do, he done the approach for you. Pisces: In my astrological opinion, I don't think anyone can possibly give you accurate causalities for the coming weeks. Your circumstances are too unique and your demands are too idiosyncratic for even the experts to understand. Let alone the people who care for you and think they own a piece of you. It is so much it might be useful for you to know what everyone has to say about your situation. Though I see their help, you can't have it all. So, I suggest that help you get clearly about what's right.

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